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Laura T. Seelys
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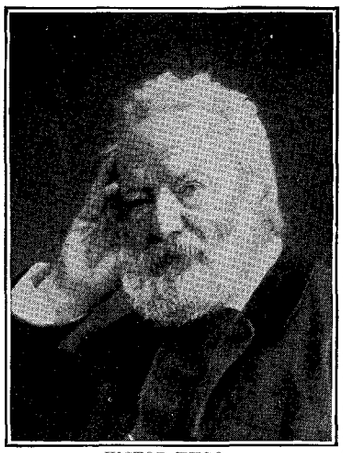

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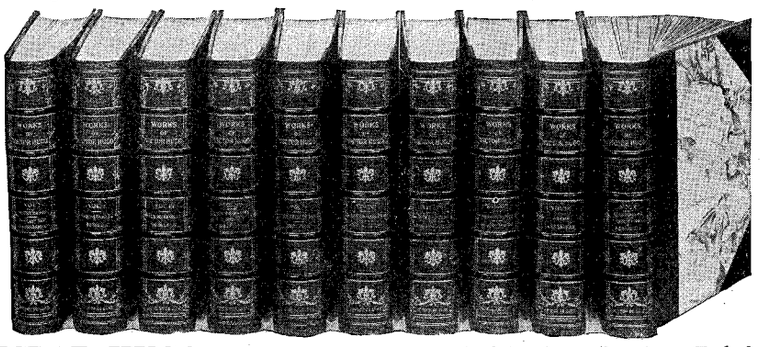

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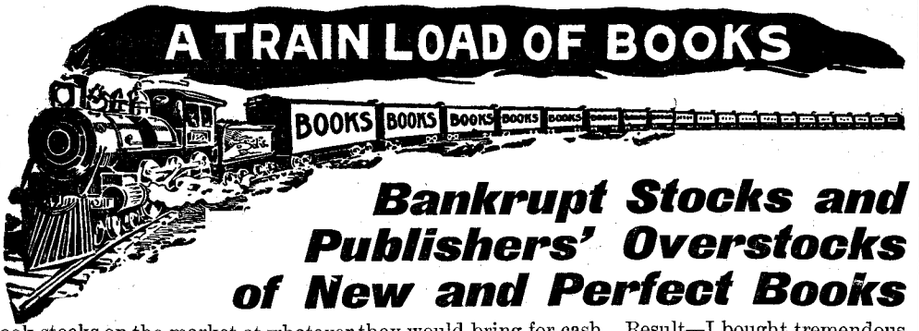

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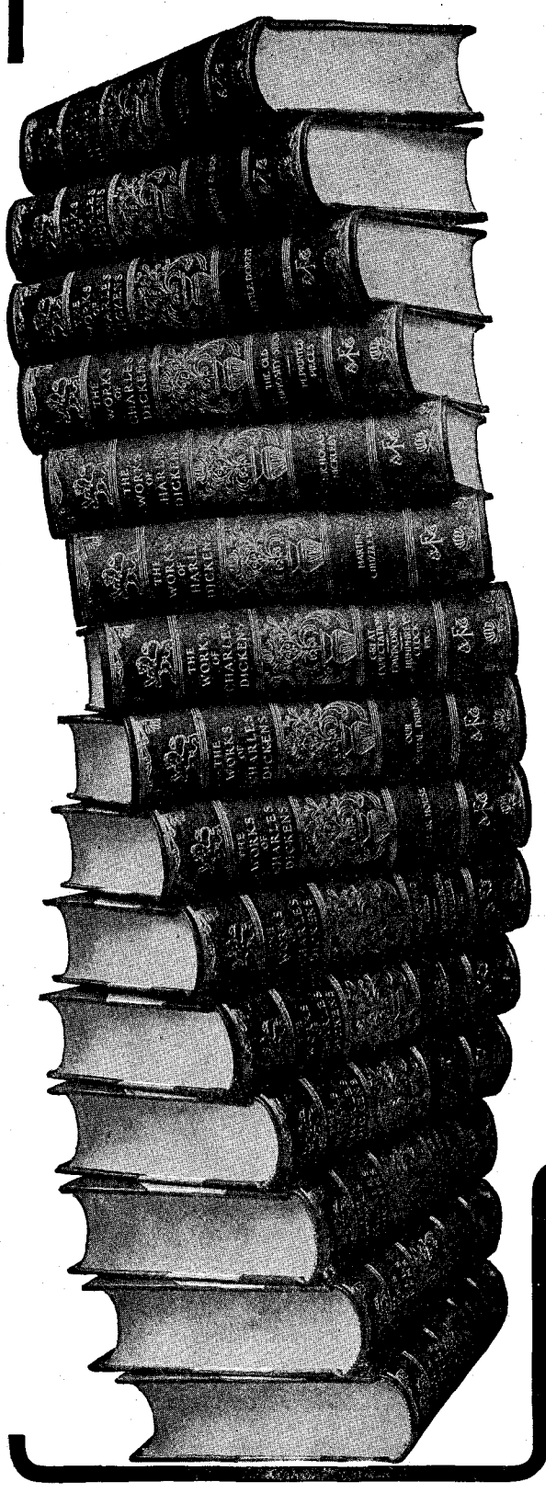

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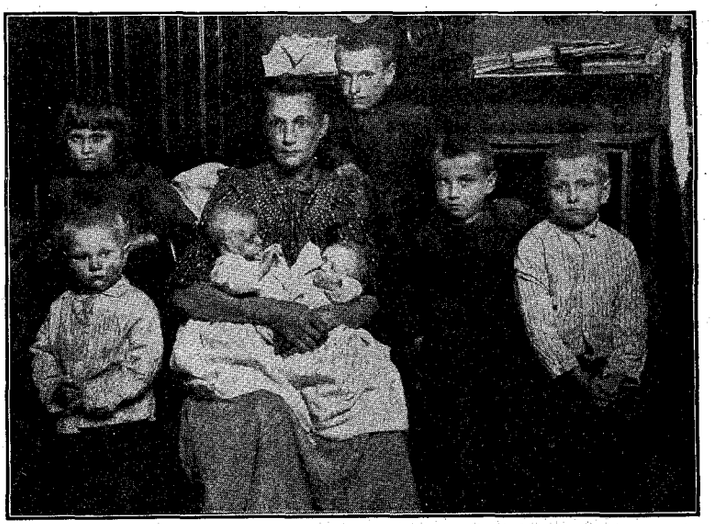

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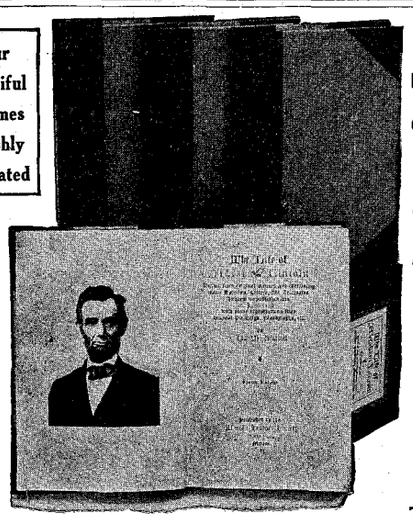

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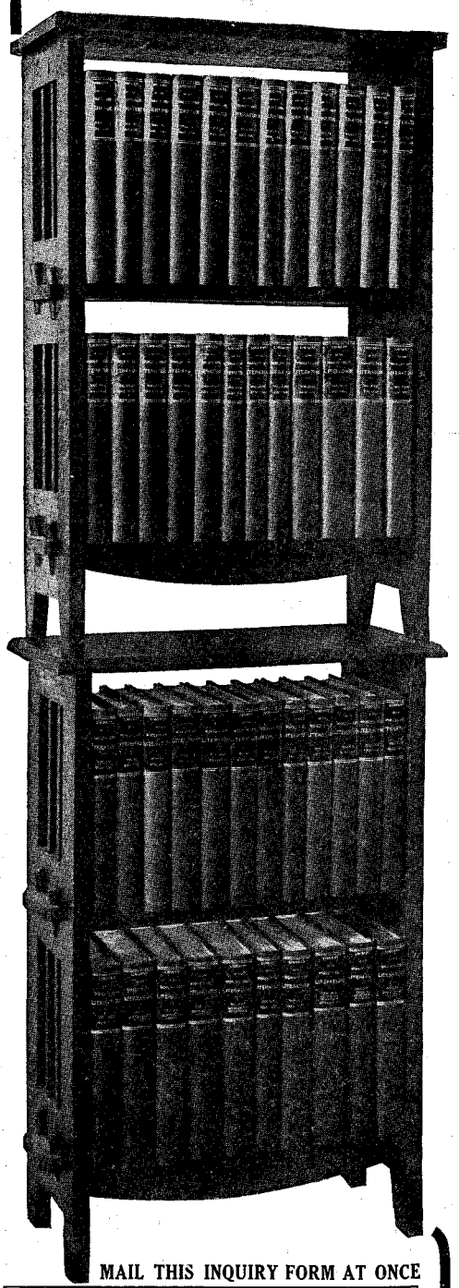

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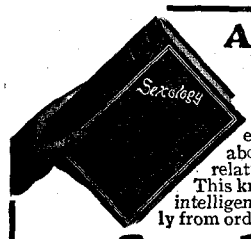

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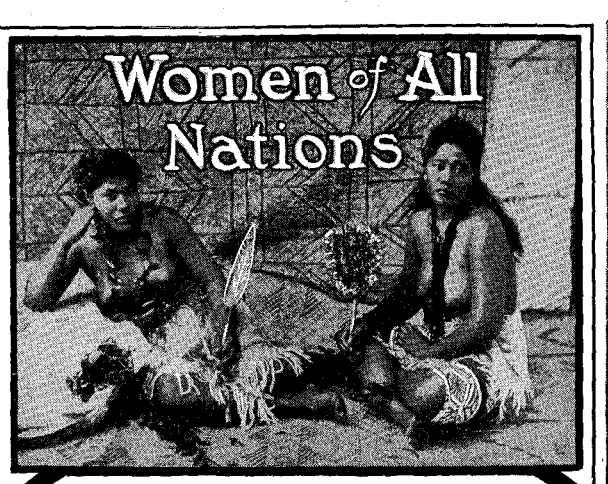

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THE LITERARY DIGEST

PUBLIC OPINION (New York) combined with THE LITERARY DIGEST

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TOPICS OF THE DAY

CALIFORNIA'S INTERMITTENT YELLOW PERIL

MR. ROOSEVELT'S successful appeal to Governor Gillett for the hold-up of anti-Japanese legislation in California, is a good sample of legitimate Presidential intervention for the national welfare, remarks one editorial writer. The proposed legislation, it will be remembered, aimed to segregate Oriental children in separate schools, provide separate quarters of towns and cities for Oriental residents, and bar Orientals from directorates of California corporations. The President's appeal was the sequel to Ambassador Takahira's formal protest against the proposed legislation on the virtual ground that it would amount to an act of bad faith on the part of the United States. On the receipt of the President's telegram and letter Governor Gillett had the bills held up and later issued a statement of his own conviction "that no anti-Japanese legislation would be enacted at the present session of the California legislature." In the mean time the attention of the whole country has been called to the fact that the race problem on the Pacific coast still bristles with possibilities of mischief. Some think that the peril of California's embroiling us in a foreign war is worse than the Japanese peril to California.

Mr. Roosevelt's letter, which only partly conceals the fear that continued agitation along anti-Japanese lines may end in rupture between the two nations, is in part as follows:

"I am greatly concerned over the anti-Japanese bills which are apparently going through or are on their way through the California legislature. They are in every sense most unfortunate. At last we have in first-class working order the arrangement which with such difficulty we succeeded in getting through two years ago. The Japanese Government are obviously acting in entire good faith. During the six months ending October 31 last, the total number of Japanese who have come to the mainland of the United States has been 2,074, and the total number who have left has been 3,281. In other words, the whole object nominally desired by those who wish to prevent the incoming of Japanese laborers has been achieved.

"More Japanese are leaving the country than are coming in, and by present indications, in a very few years the number of Japanese here will be no greater than the number of Americans in Japan; that is, the movement will be as normal in one case as in the other, which is just what we desire. There is, therefore, no shadow of excuse for an action which will simply produce great irritation and may result in upsetting the present agreement and throwing open the whole situation again.

"These agitators have themselves to thank if trouble comes from what they do, if there is a fresh influx of Japanese hither. They hamper the national Government in what it has now so efficiently accomplished—the agreement by peaceful means, and through the friendly initiative of the Japanese Government, to keep Japanese immigrants out of the United States, save as Americans themselves visit Japan. Is it not possible to get the legislature to realize the great unwisdom from the standpoint of the country at large, and above all from the standpoint of California, of what is being done?"

The personal intervention by the President has received almost universal commendation from the editorial writers, and the statement of the President that "nothing pending in Congress is of half the importance of the Japanese-California question," has met with similar agreement. "We find the spirit in which President Roosevelt has made his stand against the California mischief-makers entirely commendable," says the New York *Evening Post*; and the New York *Globe* believes that both "the Governor of California and the President of the United States are to be congratulated for the promptness and vigor of their action." "The intervention by the President is unusual, but not a bit more so than the efforts of California to nullify United States treaty rights by local law," says the Hartford *Courant*, and it is this latter phase of the incident which seems to have caused the strongest indignation in the press. Says the Louisville *Courier-Journal*:

"The statesmen of California should not forget that while they are Californians they are also Americans, and that a matter of national, not merely local, policy is embraced in their attitude toward the Japanese. As a nation the people have shown their friendship for the Japanese. As a national question the President has handled our differences with Japan. It is gratuitous, unprovoked, and unnecessary that California should now take the chance of undoing all that has been so well done. Japan has been most gracious in her dealings with the United States on the subject of the Japanese in the United States. Her Government has voluntarily made a great concession to American prejudices by forbidding the Japanese to emigrate from their native soil to the United States. That policy seemed thorough enough and radical enough to solve the whole difficulty and to please all Americans, Californians as well as others. It is inconceivable that California, under the circumstances, should, by resorting to drastic, harassing, and wholly unnecessary legislation, arbitrarily and without proper provocation spoil the fine adjustment of questions that has been made. The rest of the country should be considered a bit, as well as the high matter of national policy. Everywhere Americans hope that California will defeat the proposed legislation."

Likewise the New York *Mail* is convinced that—

"It is time the sovereignty of the nation and its foreign relations were safeguarded by something more stable than a 'gentlemen's agreement' between the Governor of a State and the President, or than the mere pressure of outside public opinion bearing on that State, as the President suggests. Congress can, and should, pass laws that would do this."

On the other hand, however, some of the press take a more sympathetic view of California's attitude. "Sacramento is not

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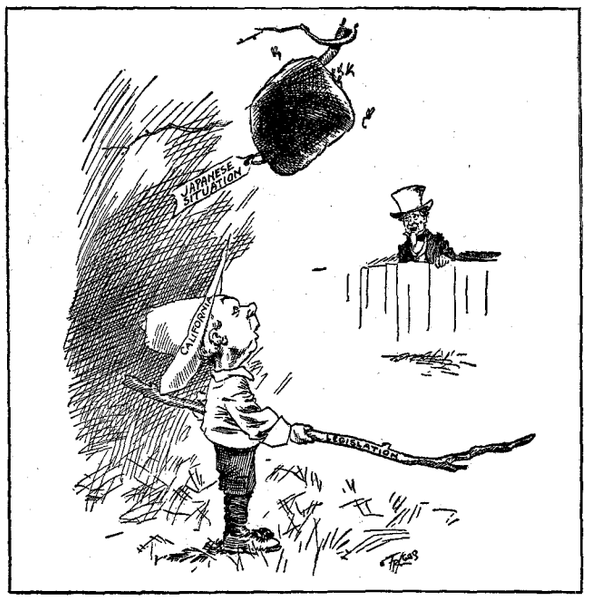
required, in matters of lawmaking, to take orders from Washington," says the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat;* and the New York *Commercial* remarks:

"From a strictly national standpoint President Roosevelt may understand the Japanese-American situation better than the people of California do. But the people of California presumably know



"GO EASY THERE, BOY!"
—Triggs in the New York *Press.*

much better than he what is good for California and Californians; they are at least to be credited with knowing what they want themselves, no matter what may be the attitude of the national Government or of the other States toward that want. They are acting with their eyes open, and their chosen lawmakers are not lacking in intelligence, judgment, or foresight. The President's statement of the situation nationally and his arguments on it are apparently fair and logical. But it is in no sense a part of his official duty or comporting with the functions of his position to interfere in the orderly conduct of legislation in California or in any other State."

Dispatches from Japan have contained ominous quotations from the Japanese press. The New York *Herald* quotes from the *Hochi* an editorial entitled "Don't Anger Us." The editorial is addrest to the American Ambassador. After recalling the intolerable abuse of the Japanese at the time of the school question in California, it expresses its "fears that sooner or later repeated insults will compel Japan to resort to a determined policy of self-protection," and goes on to say:

"Japan's yielding attitude rather seemed to tie her hands and augment the restriction of rights enjoyed by all civilized Powers. Considering the fleet's visit, American generosity toward our exposition and the visits of commissions of business men, it is highly desirable to find a cure for the malady which has attacked our good relations.

"This is an admirable opportunity to prove your true sentiments and practise forbearance. Despite the hostility evidenced not only by the California bill but by the agitation to amend the Immigration Law by Congress, the *Hochi* does not credit the rumor that the American Government is the instigator of the latter.

"The *Hochi* does not attach much value to the Government's attitude toward California. We do not desire to split hairs or make fine distinctions between Federal and State conditions, but the fact remains that there has been no result save the constant cry to Washington to check California.

"The *Hochi* appeals to the President and people of America. Altho the Japanese still believe the magnanimity displayed in the past will continue, the ceaseless affronts are exhausting our boundless patience. For the sake of peace in the Pacific don't anger us."

THE CALL FOR MORE BIG WAR-SHIPS

VERY little dissatisfaction appears in the newspapers over the bisection of the Administration's naval program by Congress. Four battle-ships of 26,000 tons each were asked; two are given. These will be larger and more powerful than any war craft now afloat, altho there is no guaranty that by the time they are completed some other Power may not have equaled or surpassed them. England, for example, we are reminded, can build a battle-ship far more quickly than we can, so that when these two ships go into commission, the British may have others of later design and greater efficiency. The New York *Herald*, which is one of the leading big-navy advocates, deprecates the act of Congress thus:

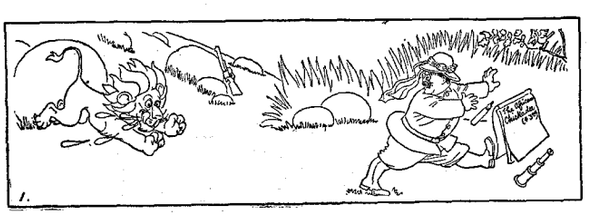
"The fateful cut and thrust at the battle-ships was, of course, not unexpected, for the committee, even with the best intentions, must have been sorely harassed by divergent theories and been affected by the financial condition and by desires to get even with the Administration that have savagely sharpened the temper of Congress. . . . . .

"The new battle-ships are to be 26,000 tons in displacement—a very healthy and appropriate growth. With the good qualities they will embody and the evils they will eliminate, these should carry us in their particular class, tho not in relative strength, to the forefront of sea effort. Possibly they may give us third place in the naval hierarchy.

"Unfortunately two ships do not constitute a fighting group, and had four—or, even better as an economic truth, six—of this design been ordered we would have owned a homogeneous and an incomparable division for the maintenance of peace and prosperity and for the fortified assertion that arbitration is the true solvent of international difficulties. For lucklessly, arbitration naked and unashamed is a mere spinning of phrases unless—always unless—it is supported by arguments that really count."

The "folly of reckless naval expansion" is roundly condemned, however, by the New York *World*, which believes that the policy of the Roosevelt Administration "is one of lavish extravagance in the direction of militarism and martial display." The most remarkable protest, however, comes in the form of a statement issued over the signatures of the following men and women:

Charles Francis Adams, Jane Addams, Samuel Bowles, John Graham Brooks, Andrew Carnegie, James Duncan, President Faunce, of Brown University, A. B. Farquhar, Edwin Ginn, Washington Gladden, Edward Everett Hale, William D. Howells, Chester Holcombe, Prof. William James, the Rev. Charles E. Jefferson, President Jordan of Leland Stanford University, Bishop William N. McVickar, Marcus Marks, N. O. Nelson, Gen. William J. Palmer, the Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, George Foster Peabody, Bliss Perry, Dean Henry Wade Rogers of the Yale Law School, Prof. William G. Sumner, Lincoln Steffens, Ida M. Tarbell, President Thwing of Western Reserve University, President



THE CARELESS LION AND THE RESOURCEFUL NATURALIST—

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Thompson of the State University of Ohio, Booker T. Washington, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, President Mary E. Woolley of Mt. Holyoke College, and others.

These distinguished signers give "thirty reasons why the Navy of the United States should not be enlarged," from which we quote the following:

"(1) Because we have fought foreign foes, English, Spanish, and Mexican, only six years in the 125 years since the Revolution. In every foreign war we made the first attack. With less danger from attack than any other nation, we are now spending more for past war and preparation for future war than any other nation in the world.

"(2) Because our extent of coast-line has little relation to danger from attack. . . . . .

"(7) Because our three foreign wars since 1781, which lasted only six years, cost in life, all told, in battle, nothing comparable with our reckless slaughter by accidents every year in time of peace. The $60,000,000 increase of the Navy asked for last year, if spent in fighting disease, ignorance, waste, and wickedness at home, probably could save as much life and property as all our foreign and civil wars have cost. In five years we have lost alone by fire, largely preventable, $1,200,000,000. In four years we have killed, by accident, largely preventable, 80,000 more than were killed on both sides in the four years of civil war.

"(8) Because we are already spending over 65 per cent. of the nation's revenue in payment for past war and in preparation for future war, and have but one-third of our national revenue left for judicial and executive departments, coast guard, lighthouses, quarantine, custom-houses, post-offices, census, waterways, forestry, consular and diplomatic service, and all other constructive work. . . . . .

"(9) Because our Navy is already so large as to incite other nations to increase theirs. Our naval increase was quoted last year in the French Assembly as an argument for a French increase. This senseless rivalry is driving certain would-be customers of ours toward bankruptcy. . . . . .

"(29) Because by lowering excessive tariffs and thus promoting commercial fraternity we could do more for peace than through intimidation by armaments."

Accompanying the House Committee's report on the Naval Appropriation Bill, which contains the provision authorizing the new ships, is a statement outlining the naval building programs of the chief foreign Powers for the year 1908-9. Says the Washington correspondent of the New York *Sun*:

"It shows that during the last year the policy of building battleships of large displacement and high speed, with main-battery guns of the largest caliber, has been universally continued, and all navies are now engaged in or have authorized the construction of such vessels, the list including England, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Japan, Brazil, and the Argentine Republic, besides the United States.

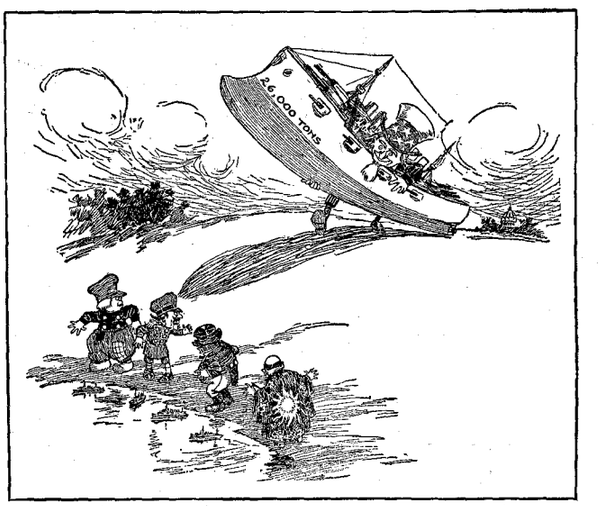
"The displacements of the later battle-ships range from 19,000 to 22,000 tons at designed displacement; the number of large-caliber guns mounted varies from ten to twelve, and the torpedo defense, or lesser batteries, consist of calibers ranging from four to six inches. While England, Germany, and Japan are also building so-called armored cruisers of the *Invincible* type, mounting 12-inch guns (11-inch or 12-inch in Germany), these are really fast battle-ships in which protection has been in a measure sacrificed to speed.

"In addition to these fighting-ships intended for the line of battle, all navies are building scouts or unarmored cruisers of displacements ranging from 3,500 to 5,000 tons, lightly armed but of very high speed, 23 to 26 knots, as well as torpedo craft, which term includes destroyers, torpedo-boats, and submarines.

"England is now building a number of destroyers of more than 900 tons displacement, with 33 to 35 knots speed, besides a new type of about 900 tons which will have considerably less speed, about 27 knots, but with much improved seagoing qualities.

"Germany is building destroyers of about 650 tons displacement and 30 to 33 knots speed; and Japan is reported to be building a destroyer of 1,100 tons and 35 knots speed.

"Submarines are being built in all countries, and here again the tendency is toward increase in size and speed."

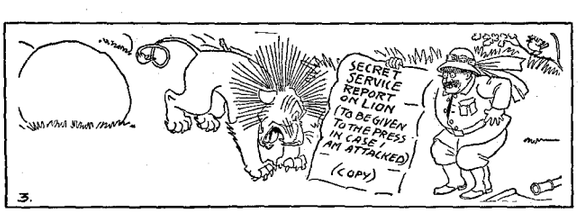


WELL! WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?
—Farren in the Boston *Herald*.

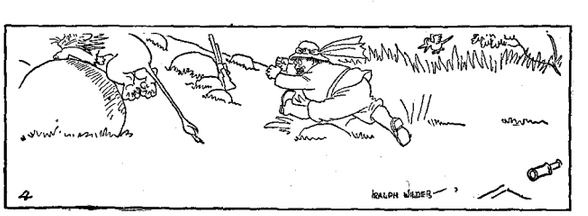
The full program recommended by the House Committee authorizes two battle-ships of 26,000 tons displacement, $19,000,000, five torpedo-boat destroyers, $4,000,000, three colliers, $3,600,000, four submarines, $2,000,000, and one sub-surface boat, $400,000.

UNMASKING AN INFANT MONOPOLY

"THE people of this country are threatened by a monopoly far more powerful, because in far closer touch with their domestic and industrial life, than anything known to our experience," asserts President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress accompanying his veto of a too generous water-power franchise bill. Already, he states, some thirteen large concerns are known to control 19 per cent. of all the water-power now used by power plants in the United States, while there is some evidence that they really control 33 per cent. This astonishing consolidation, he says, has taken place practically within the last five years, and is part of a deliberate and far-sighted scheme. Unless the movement, still in its infancy, is controlled, Congress is warned that "the history of the oil industry will be repeated in the hydro-electric power industry, with results far more oppressive and disastrous for the people." The full significance of the situation is revealed in the further statement that "a single generation will see the exhaustion of our natural resources of oil and gas and such a rise in the price of coal as will make the price of electrically transmitted water-power a controlling factor in transportation, in manufacturing, and in household lighting and heating." Most of the country's water-power is



A POSSIBLE INCIDENT OF THE AFRICAN HUNT.



—Wilder in the Chicago *Record-Herald*.

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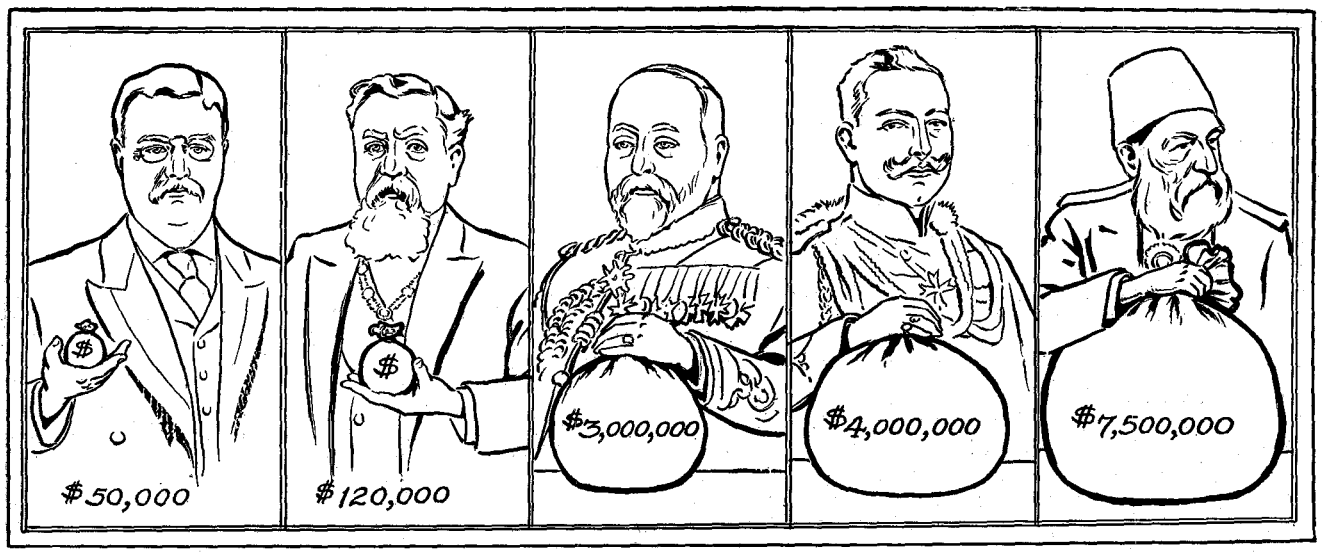

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT. PRESIDENT FALLIÈRES. KING EDWARD. EMPEROR WILLIAM. ABDUL-HAMID.

THE EFFECT OF THE ABSENCE OF A WAGE SCALE.

still undeveloped, and still under national or State control. Says the President:

"To give away without conditions, this, one of the greatest of our resources, would be an act of folly. If we are guilty of it, our children will be forced to pay an annual return upon a capitalization based upon the highest prices which 'the traffic will bear.' They will find themselves face to face with powerful interests entrenched behind the doctrine of 'vested rights' and strengthened by every defense which money can buy and the ingenuity of able corporation lawyers can devise. Long before that time they may and very probably will have become a consolidated interest, controlled from the great financial centers, dictating the terms upon which the citizen can conduct his business or earn his livelihood, and not amenable to the wholesome check of local opinion."

The particular bill which incurred the Presidential veto and called forth these remarks granted to William H. Standish the unconditional right to dam the James River, in Missouri, for the purpose of generating electric power. As in his similar veto of the Rainy River Dam Bill of last spring, the President insists that such concessions must be so qualified as to leave the ultimate control of the privileges granted in the hands of the nation. Thus no perpetual franchises should be granted, and the Government should charge the grantee a license fee, which, tho nominal at the outset, can in the future be adjusted so as to secure a control in the public's interest. As to the power of Congress to impose such conditions, the President says:

"My reason for believing that the Federal Government in granting a license to dam a navigable river has the power to impose any conditions it finds necessary to protect the public, including a charge and a limitation of the time, is that its consent is legally essential to an enterprise of this character. It follows that Congress can impose conditions upon its consent."

There are rumors, however, that Congress, in its present mood, will pass the bill as it stands, in the face of the President's veto. In which case, says a Washington correspondent of the New York *Evening Mail*, "Congress will make the President a present of a weapon against it which will be bigger than any stick he has yet wielded." Whatever may be the feeling of Congress in this matter, the press seem to be with the President. Thus the Chicago *Record-Herald*, the Pittsburg *Chronicle-Telegraph*, the Rochester *Post-Express*, the Detroit *Journal*, and the Boston *Transcript* agree heartily that Congress should not give away, in perpetuity and without compensation or control, the nation's water-power privileges. Says *The Transcript:*

"The United States Senate has never agreed with Roosevelt on the water-power program, altho individuals in it have espoused his cause. The Senate Committee on Commerce has dismissed the idea as 'a new departure from the policy heretofore pursued in respect to legislation authorizing the construction of such dams.' The fact that the proposed policy is new the President does not regard as a sufficient argument against its adoption. It is somewhat significant that so soon after the Secret-Service affair he has the temerity to present the difference between his views and those of the other House of Congress. But in this controversy Mr. Roosevelt can well afford to write his policy on the records, as exprest in repeated vetoes, and let history decide what it thinks of the American people of this generation if it allows him to be overridden."

The New York *Journal of Commerce*, while it thinks the President's picture of a future water-power monopoly overdrawn, admits that the policy he advocates in regard to water franchises is "a sound and prudent one." Says the New York *Globe:*

"Heretofore the objection to damming waters for the creation of electrical power has chiefly been on sentimental and esthetic grounds. But the economic argument is stronger and capable of wider application. The use of the moving streams whose movement will create the motive power of the future, when the supplies of coal are less, must be strictly controlled and regulated by the public."

RAISING THE PRESIDENT'S SALARY

NEARLY every one seems to be willing that the President's pay should be raised to $100,000 a year and that the salaries of the Vice-President, Speaker, and Federal judges should be largely increased, if the press comment is any indication. The proposition now before Congress is that instead of the present $50,000, plus $25,000 for traveling expenses the President shall have $100,000; that the Vice-President and Speaker shall have $15,000 each, instead of $12,000; the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court $15,000, instead of $13,000; the associate justices $14,500, instead of $12,500; the circuit judges $9,000, instead of $7,000; and the district judges $8,000, instead of $6,000. The Chicago *Evening Post*, in recommending the increase in Presidential pay, declares that "the worry of the thing is worth a hundred thousand, let alone the work of it," and the New York *Commercial* thinks the increase entirely too little. The New York *Tribune*, whose editor is spending many times his salary as Ambassador to the Court of St. James in keeping up the dignity of that position, thinks the President's pay should certainly be raised; and the New York *Sun*, whose editor has recently fallen under Presidential displeasure, remarks that President Roosevelt ought to have had the increased salary to pay for his enormous wine bills! In con-

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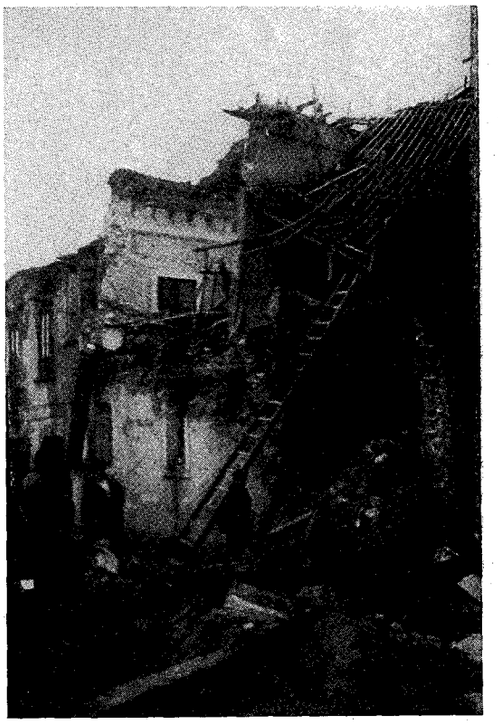
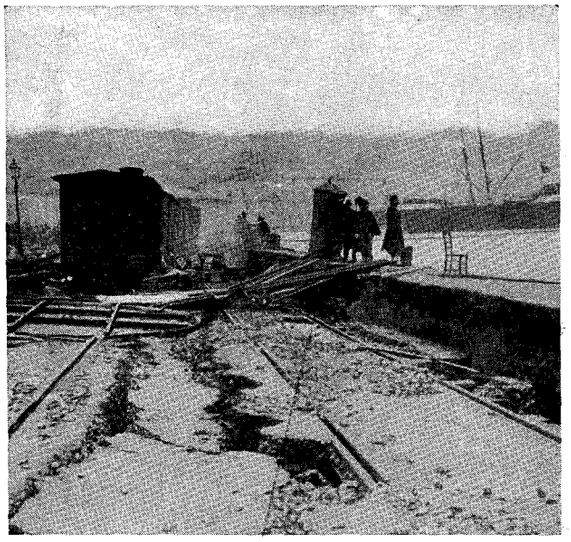
HOW THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE AND TIDAL WAVE LEFT THE WATERFRONT AT REGGIO.



LOCATING IMPRISONED SURVIVORS AT BAGNARA BY THEIR CRIES.



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FISSURES IN THE EARTH AT MESSINA.

THIS WAS A STREET IN REGGIO.

MORE SCENES IN THE EARTHQUAKE DISTRICT.

trast to our President's $50,000 or $100,000 King Edward and Victor Emmanuel receive nearly $3,000,000 each per year, and William II. and Francis Joseph receive nearly $4,000,000 apiece. The income of the Sultan is about $7,500,000 per annum, and that of the Czar, formerly $12,000,000, is now said to be much reduced, but still enough to provide many comforts.

The total cost of maintaining the President is put at about $230,000 by the Washington correspondent of the New York *Times*, who figures it out as follows:

President's salary	$50,000
Clerk hire	69,920
Contingent fund	25,000
President's traveling expenses	25,000
Maintenance White House, horses, vehicles, etc.	35,000
White-House grounds	4,000
Fuel	6,000
Care of greenhouses	9,000
Repair of greenhouses	2,000
Printing	2,000
Lighting White-House grounds	510
Total	$229,430

The only important objector seems to be Senator Bailey, of Texas. He said in the Senate on Monday of last week that this movement for higher salaries is part of the "tendency toward extravagance" that is "calculated to alarm the thoughtful man." "We hear it said in many places," he remarked, "that the present salaries are inadequate to provide for the entertainments which high officials are expected to give." Well, then, he added—

"If the President of the United States is not rich enough to give a great banquet, let him give a modest one and invite men to it for what they know, instead of for what they own. Let him invite the great and upright whose purses are not their chief claim to distinction, and such men will not complain if his table does not groan beneath the weight of costly delicacies. Let him assemble men there who will be glad to break his bread amid simple surroundings. That will be better for him, for he will learn something from such men, and God knows that even the President is not often exempt from the necessity of knowing more than the best of us can hope to learn. If those who gage everything by splendid trappings and by extravagance do not want to visit the

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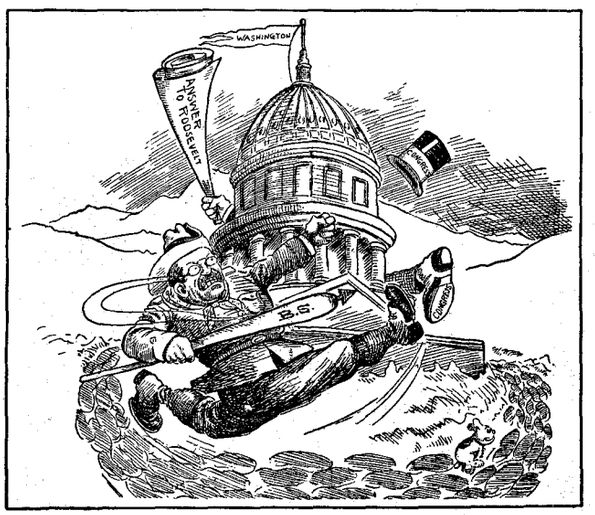

PUZZLE PICTURE—WHO IS BEING CHASED?
—Naughton in the Minneapolis *Tribune*.

THE WIDENING CHASM.
—Heaton in the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*.

A PERFECTLY CORKING TIME.

White House because the entertainments are not lavish enough, so much the better for the President and for the country. . . . . .

"As long as there is a poorhouse in America filled with unfortunates I do not believe in this kind of expenditures. After we have relieved every man's and every woman's distress, after we have administered to the sick, and when we have no longer paupers nor inmates of the poorhouse, then you can tell me how prosperous this nation is and how liberal it ought to be with its Executive in the matter of salaries. But not till then."

THE "UNWRITTEN LAW" IN NEW YORK

THE acquittal of Thornton Jenkins Hains of complicity in the murder of William E. Annis has once more turned the attention of the press of the whole country to that difficult and perennial topic, the "unwritten law." The facts of the case, shorn of all details, are as follows: Last summer, at Bayside, N. Y., in the presence of many witnesses, William E. Annis was shot to death by Capt. Peter C. Hains, whose home he was accused of having broken up. Standing near by with drawn revolver, Thornton Jenkins Hains held the spectators at bay until his brother had completed the killing. No sooner was the defendant free than he made it plain that he, whatever the jurors may have thought, considered his acquittal another triumph of the "unwritten law." In a statement to the press he declared the legal fight for life to be "like a poker game," and went on to say:

"The jury, by returning a verdict acquitting me of original responsibility for the death of Annis, has placed the 'unwritten law' high above the written law of the State of New York. Clearly the jury vindicated the righteousness of the 'unwritten law' by finding me not guilty as charged. That must be obvious to every mind that has followed the trend of the testimony and grasped the significance of the verdict in correlation with the judge's charge. Clearly, also, if I am guiltless my brother is guiltless. Should he now be tried there is not any doubt that he will be acquitted."

The jurors, however, emphatically declared that they had not been influenced by the "unwritten law."

The Southern papers take some interesting views of the case. Thus the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* contrasts the conviction of the nightriders in the South with the acquittal of Hains in the North, and goes on to say:

"We do not find that Northern justice moves on a loftier plane than Southern justice; that juries above Mason and Dixon's line are so much truer to their oaths and more unyielding to emotional impulses than juries below it; that the natures of men in one part of the country are so different from the natures of men in another. The same lamentable breakdowns in the law occur in New York as in Virginia, in Illinois as in Mississippi. This is melancholy truth. The one agreeable reflection in such an affair as this last one is that it may somewhat chasten our rather arrogant long-distance critics and set these generally well-meaning friends to the remorseful pursuit of beams."

Northern papers, like the Philadelphia *Ledger*, admit that "it will not do for critics of the South to rail at Southern lawlessness," and the Springfield *Republican* adds:

"The conclusion is strengthened that the rule of private vengeance is supplanting public law, not in the wilder sections of the South, but in the heart of American civilization. . . . Here we have a complete reversion to the idea of crude and primitive societies that crime is to be considered as an offense against the individual rather than the State, and its punishment left to the persons and families affected."

"If the unwritten-law-supporters like this sort of an advocate," says the New York *Globe* referring to Thornton Hains's statement, "those who stick to the written law will rejoice, for they behold this pestilent defense made ridiculous." The Socialist *Call* of the same city remarks that "modern bourgeois society keeps the savagery and the silliness and drops the courage" of the feudal unwritten law of single combat.

An interesting psychological problem is raised by the New York *Times*. It seems that the correspondents of newspapers in letters are bitter against the defendant; while the crowd in the court-room cheered him:

"The explanation lies, perhaps, not in any essential difference between these two classes, but in the fact that, while capital punishment can be calmly viewed in the abstract, it excites in modern minds an unconquerable antagonism when it comes to application in a concrete case to a man seen and known."

"What really constitutes murder under the law of the State of New York?" asks *The Sun*. Other New-York papers seek for remedies to cure the evils the "unwritten law" seeks to cure, *The Mail* saying:

"The operations of justice and the practise of juries might be recast either by enacting and defining 'the unwritten law'; by imposing on home-breakers, men and women alike, legal penalties equal to those that are palliated when inflicted by private vengeance, or by taking from juries those functions which are not a finding as to facts but an expression of opinion as to facts undisputed."

Something of the reputation New York is gaining for inability to convict in murder cases may be gathered from the following paragraph which appears in the Portland *Oregonian*, under the title "The New-York Way":

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"'Patrick Has Not Given Up Hope' is the headline over a news item announcing that the murderer of Millionaire Rice expected to be soon released through habeas-corpus proceedings. As the murder for which Mr. Patrick was convicted and frequently sentenced to death was committed in 1900, there is certainly no reason why such a criminal as Mr. Patrick should give up hope. It is, of course, somewhat remarkable that Mr. Patrick should be kept in confinement for nine years while he was making an effort to escape punishment for his crime, but, as for giving up hope, he will hardly succumb to anything like that for at least another ten or twelve years."

A BIG OIL FINE UPHELD

TEXAS, in her "ten years' war" against monopolies, scored a memorable victory last week when the Federal Supreme Court confirmed the action of the State courts in levying a fine of $1,623,900 against the Waters-Pierce Oil Company, of St. Louis, Mo., and at the same time ousting that company from the Lone Star State. Not long ago, as several papers point out, the Texas Antitrust Law was widely regarded as the essence of dangerous radicalism. Now the United States Supreme Court has unanimously indorsed its operation in a conspicuous test case, and the press seem to be almost as unanimous in its favor as the court.

It was charged that the Waters-Pierce Company was actually owned by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, with which it had made an agreement maintaining the price of oil 10 to 25 per cent. higher than in other territory, after having established a practical monopoly in Texas. The permit of the company to do business had been revoked once, but in 1900, owing to the activity of Senator Bailey and the sworn statements of the president, H. C. Pierce, it was again permitted to do business. These sworn statements were shown to be false, and the latter official is now under indictment. Under the original law the company was liable to a fine of from $200 to $5,000 a day; the jury fixt the rate of damages at $1,500 for 1,033 days from May 31, 1900, until the new law in 1903 began to operate. This law fixt the penalty at $50 a day which the jury imposed for 1,488 days, up to April 24, 1907, when the suit was begun.

In answering the two main contentions of the company, regarding the power of the State over foreign corporations, and the size of the fine, Justice Day, who wrote the opinion, said in part:

"It is not open to question that State legislatures have the right to deal with the subject-matter and to prevent unlawful combinations to prevent competition and in restraint of trade. Having the power to pass laws of this character, of course the State may provide for proceedings to enforce the same. The State, keeping within constitutional limitations may provide its own method of procedure and determine the methods and means by which such laws may be made effective. . . . . .

"The business carried on by the defendant corporation in Texas was very extensive and highly profitable as the record discloses. The property of the defendant amounted to more than $40,000,000 as testified by its president. Its dividends had been as high as 700 per cent. per annum. It is the theory of the State, sustained by the verdict and judgment, that the former course of business was continued notwithstanding the judgment of ouster in the former case. Within the bounds of the statute the penalties were left to the discretion of the jury trying the case. While the penalties imposed are large, they are within the terms of the statute."

The Houston *Post* calls attention "to the fact that as much as the courts of the country have been abused in recent years, it is to their decisions upholding fundamental principles of equity that the people owe their most substantial victories against corporate aggression." Outside of Texas, also, the press seem disposed to read many lessons in the decision, the most common being that of the effectiveness of State control. As the New York *World* remarks:

"If Missouri and Texas can bar Standard Oil from doing a monopoly business, and the latter can fine one of its tentacle companies, so may any State. If Virginia can fix railroad fares, so may any State. If New York can put the price of gas at a fair figure, so may any State. Similar action in a hundred directions any State may take and every State should take where public interest demands. Here is the real, constitutional remedy for the evils of monopoly."

This opinion is echoed by the New York *American* and the Indianapolis *News*. It is qualified, however, by the Philadelphia *Press*, which remarks:

"The suit for penalties shows that a State can exclude a trust, but it takes ten years to do it, and it has only been accomplished in the largest State in the Union, with an oil supply of its own. Federal regulation remains as necessary as ever."

Still another interesting aspect is commented on by *The Record* of the same city when it says hopefully that "if there really be a 'twilight zone' between State and Federal jurisdictions the courts are reducing the same to practical insignificance." This is more fully developed by the New York *Journal of Commerce*:

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JOHN D. IN THE HAUNTED FOREST—"I thought I was out of this."
—Mayer in the New York *Times*.

"This decision leaves no 'twilight zone' between Federal and State jurisdiction in which trusts or monopolies and conspiracies in restraint of trade can find refuge and escape prohibition or punishment. States can enact their own laws and make them effective by their own procedure and penalties, within clear limitations affecting only 'fundamental rights' and 'specific and applicable provisions of the Federal constitution,' which must not be contravened. If these are observed there can be no intervention of Federal power to prevent the execution of the judgment of State courts. This makes it plain that if the States will exercise their own antitrust jurisdiction there will be little occasion for appeal to Federal authority to deal with the abuses of corporate power or monopolies and combinations in restraint of trade. If these could not operate within States there would be no place for their operation in the United States, and the regulation of interstate commerce for the prevention of such abuses would be greatly simplified."

Some papers attempt to prophesy possible effects, the common prophecy being that the Supreme Court is likely to uphold the Missouri Supreme Court in its action ousting Standard Oil from that State by March 1, of this year.

But one of the most interesting possible results is predicted by the Washington *Times*:

"This decision points to the conclusion that the Federal Supreme Court wants to lead the way back to State control. It has not chosen the route to control through centralization. It adheres to the more strict and literal interpretation which makes this Government a government of delegated powers and leaves all, not

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specifically delegated, in the hands of the States. It calls a halt in the process of centralization of power. It directs the whole movement back to the States.

"Unquestionably it is one of the most important decisions in all the line of antitrust litigation. It will be cited for generations to come in innumerable cases. It will start this winter's legislatures studying the Texas laws, and doubtless will be responsible for the adoption of codes, based on the Texas acts, in many States."

AN UNPRECEDENTED LIBEL SUIT

WHEN the New York *World* lent its columns to the suggestion that Charles P. Taft, brother of the President-elect and Douglas Robinson, a brother-in-law of President Roosevelt, had benefited financially when the United States purchased the Panama Canal rights from the French company, and that the whole transaction had been tainted with corruption, the President sent a message to Congress characterizing the story as "a libel upon the Government of the United States." At the same time he exprest his opinion that it should not be left to individuals to seek redress for such a libel, but that the Government should find a way to prosecute the case. When, therefore, grand juries in Washington and New York began summoning witnesses to testify in "a matter between the United States and the Press Publishing Company"—the corporate title of *The World*—the assumption was that the President had found a law to fit the case, in spite of the general impression that no such offense as libeling a government was recognized in this country. While the actual plaintiffs and defendants in the case are still unannounced, the mere suggestion of a Federal suit against a newspaper for criminal libel has greatly stirred up the press. Such a suit, remarks the Boston *Transcript* (Rep.), "would raise an issue which it has been generally thought was laid forever by the repeal of the alien and sedition laws one hundred years ago." Even assuming *The World* to be as guilty as the President alleges, says the Portland (Me.) *Advertiser* (Rep.), it is a case where the proposed remedy "would be worse than the disease." To quote further from the same source:

"But the doctrine that an allegation of wrong-doing on the part of individuals, whether they be private citizens or Government officials, is a slander on the people, is both novel and dangerous. That such a doctrine has been set up is evident from the language of the President's message to Congress on the Panama affair. In it he said that Mr. Pulitzer 'had blackened the good name of the American people' and that 'he should be prosecuted for libel by the Government authorities.' It is a doctrine which has been well described as ominous."

This view is shared by the Lowell *Courier-Citizen* (Rep.), the Chicago *Inter Ocean* (Rep.), the Kansas City *Journal* (Rep.), the New York *Evening Mail* (Rep.), the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.), the Nashville *Banner* (Ind.), the Quincy *Herald* (Dem.), and by many other papers of all parties. "It is safe to say in advance," remarks the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.), "that, if the prosecution be anything but a suit for libel by aggrieved individuals, if it be an attempt to establish the right of the Government, as such, to punish even unjust or malicious attacks, it will be an enormous blunder." To quote further:

"We say this irrespective of what the law may be found to be. It is possible that, under some old statute or other, a Government suit for libel may be maintained. But the mistake of bringing one is not thereby diminished. Far from fettering reckless journalists, it puts a new weapon in their hands. They can at once cry out that they are victims of oppression, and that the freedom of the press is imperiled in their persons. The real issues will be hidden under a cloud of this kind of dust. If *The World* libeled Mr. Cromwell, or C. P. Taft and Douglas Robinson, or even Theodore Roosevelt, those gentlemen have an ample remedy. The laws of libel are severe, admitting of exemplary damages and of criminal prosecution. Let the injured parties in the present case seek their vindication, and the punishment of the offender, in the regular way. Any other course will permit sensational newspapers both to pose as martyrs and to get off scot-free.

"A blow at the liberty of the press," is the warning cry heard on many sides. Says the Washington *Evening Star:*

"Neither national public sentiment nor the courts will, it is believed, permit a partizan national Government to indict in the District of Columbia even its libelous partizan critics in New Orleans or San Francisco and to extradite them and bring them for trial to a jurisdiction so peculiarly under the control of the national Government as the ten miles square. *The Star* hopes that the prosecutions will be brought with some of the defamed individuals as the complainants, and that indictments will be found in the jurisdictions in which the accused newspapers are published as well as in Washington. If the precedent of the Dana case of 1895 is to stand, the only effect of a Washington indictment will be to exile the indicted from the national capital, since it was decided in that case that Dana could not be extradicted and brought here from New York for trial."

The Indianapolis *News*, which may be a defendant in the case, reminds its readers that the freedom of the press is an old battle-ground in Anglo-Saxon countries.

The Toledo *Blade* (Rep.), however, thinks that the true doctrine of free speech will not suffer in the least by anything which puts a check upon the irresponsible propagation of falsehoods. Thus:

"If it is free speech to publish an article declaring that the purchase of the Panama Canal was a huge fraud, that a relative of the President profited tremendously by that transaction, and, by inference, the President himself, that the brother of the Republican candidate for the presidency also shared in the corrupt gains, and by inference the candidate himself—all of the charges being manufactured out of whole cloth—then it would be right and proper to harness this free speech."

TOPICS IN BRIEF

WE confidently expect President Roosevelt to keep up the interest until the fall of the curtain.—*Chicago News.*

"BOTH Washington and Lincoln were devoted Americans, devoted patriots."—Theodore Roosevelt in *The Outlook.*

ACCORDING to a census-bureau estimate it is going to cost $14,000,000 to count us. That is about six for $1. It looks like easy money for a good counter.—*Chicago News.*

A BALTIMORE undertaker advertises: "If, when all is done, the funeral has not been satisfactory to you, you need not pay the bill." That's a dead cinch.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

"CAN anybody explain the mystery of life and death?" asks Dr. Lyman Abbott. Reserve 89 columns for the associate editor, doctor, and you'll see.—*Richmond Times-Despatch.*

IN San Francisco a man got eight years for stealing eight cents, while a banker who wrecked a bank with $9,000,000 deposits got eighteen months. Things have never been right there since the earthquake.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

BEN TILLMAN is the latest earthquake victim.—*Chicago Tribune.*

KAISER WILHELM must be in the mood to cancel his subscription to his clipping-bureau.—*Chicago Post.*

WE are assured that there will be no baseball war in 1909. That leaves a clear field for the Balkan difficulty.—*Chicago News.*

THE Russian Douma has sent a congratulatory note to the Turkish Parliament. This should encourage the latter some, if not much.—*Washington Herald.*

JUDGE LANDIS refuses to hear the oil case again. What is there to hear that he doesn't know already? Attorneys for the corporation may be very smart, but they couldn't tell him anything about that case. Let them try it on another judge.—*Chicago News.*

"THE origin of politics is lost in prehistoric uncertainty," says a scientist. We note that "the paleolithic man lived in Ohio," according to the Baltimore *American*, however. The latter circumstance may throw some light on the former condition.—*Washington Herald.*

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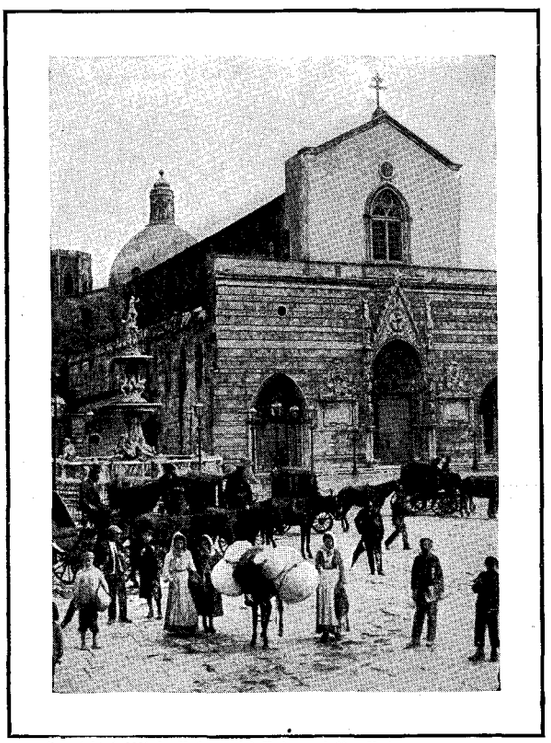
LESSONS OF THE EARTHQUAKE

THE dismay and consternation with which Europe, and indeed the whole civilized world, have contemplated the stupendous catastrophe at Messina and Reggio have at last found definite and articulate utterance in the press. "Is Messina to be rebuilt?" we are asked. "Shall the regions of the earth liable to seismic convulsions be abandoned?" is a question seriously propounded by leading organs of journalism. The more deeply underlying problems connected with the calamity are treated by such German journals as deal in a somewhat cold-blooded tone with "the philosophy of the catastrophe." The Roman organ of the Vatican declares that such a visitation as the Calabrian earthquake serves as an occasion for vindicating the "solidarity of the human race." Thus we read in the *Osservatore Romano* of the sympathy and co-operation shown by the various nations of the world who were represented in that Scylla and Charybdis of desolation:



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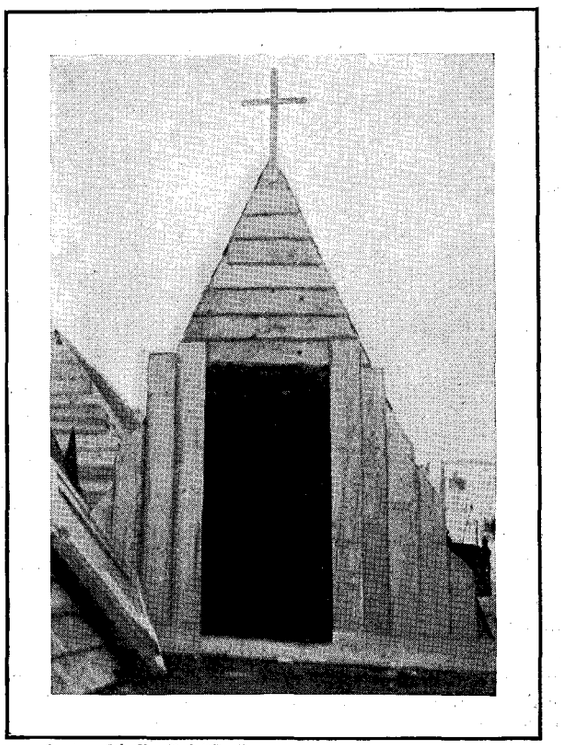
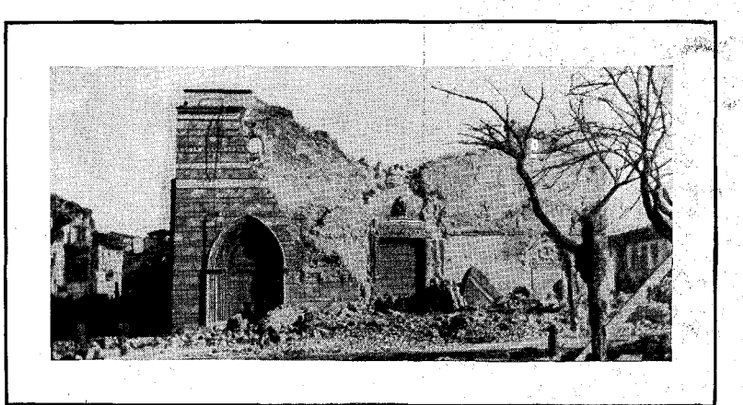
THE MESSINA CATHEDRAL BEFORE THE EARTHQUAKE.



Courtesy of the New York "Sun."

THE PRESENT CATHEDRAL.



Courtesy of the New York "Sun."

THE CATHEDRAL AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE.

"We see here the triumph of humanity, the epiphany of the world's charity. This human society, which is lost in the mazes of so many errors, which is guilty of so many faults, which is the author of so many wrongs, moral and material, still preserves under the dust and ashes of its asphyxiating worldliness, the sacred fire of Christian charity, always ready to burst out into a brilliant flame, which warms but does not destroy, which illuminates without consuming. It is a flame which soars to heaven like sweet incense, like a prayer of propitiation which has power to appease the divine justice and insure the eternal repose of the victims, as well as comfort and resignation for the survivors."

The Paris *Gaulois*, in an article entitled "From the Throne to the Ruins," dwells more particularly on the part played by the King and Queen of Italy in the relief of the sufferers from the terrible upheaval. "In Germany, in Russia, in England, examples of this kind are much rarer," the writer notes, and asks: "Has the Latin race alone reserved to itself the privilege of showing pity and self-sacrifice?" We are told that Alfonso XIII. followed the example of St. Louis, and that not only Bonaparte, but Napoleon III., always repaired to the scenes of national disaster. The editorial concludes:

"It has been said that the right of pardon is the choicest privilege of the Crown. There is, however, another right, which is still choicer and more useful, that of personally rendering succor to the unfortunate."

That catastrophes like earthquakes are tokens of the special interpositions of an avenging providence is dismissed as a medieval myth by the *Berliner Tageblatt*, in an article on "the philosophy of the earthquake," from which we quote the following:

"The modern spirit looks at these things in another way. The modern human race is at war with the world around it. It fights with the forces of nature and will subjugate them to its service, or at least render them harmless.

"Mankind is aware that science alone can succeed in doing this.

"The earthquake, therefore, is merely regarded as a problem

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which science alone can master, and can alone succeed, if not in obviating, at least in rendering less destructive."

The rebuilding of the old and beautiful Greek city of Messina is already being discust. It will undoubtedly be rebuilt, says *The Daily Mail* (London), but with more cautious constructive skill. Thus we are told:

"It might seem at first sight that it is an open challenge to nature to rebuild towns which she has so plainly marked out for injury. But here modern science has an important rôle to play. Since the last great cataclysm visited the Straits of Messina seismological phenomena have been carefully studied. A vast mass of information has been accumulated, and if this be judiciously utilized the danger of a future disaster can be greatly reduced, if not altogether removed. It is known, for example, from an examination of the effects of the earthquake at San Francisco that steel-framed buildings resisted the shocks with almost complete success. The 'sky-scrapers,' in which the commercial capital of California abounded, did not fall or cause loss of human life. The reason was that they were strongly built of a material which would withstand vibrations, and that they were planted upon firm foundations."

The *Neue Freie Presse* (Vienna) thinks that the restorers of Messina may well take a lesson from Japan. To quote from this important Austrian organ:

"The question of rebuilding the ruined city and its neighboring villages has been discust by an eminent Italian geologist, who asserts that the Japanese style of building is almost earthquake-proof. Japan is well known to be a country much exposed to the most violent seismic disturbances. And Southern Italy would do well, in accordance with a climate very similar to that of Japan, to imitate as far as possible the style of building which has been found to be safest in Nippon."

The Westminster Gazette (London), less sanguine, remarks:

"To prophesy that Messina will not rise again from its ashes would be foolish in face of its past record; but that it can for a century at least again become the prosperous port that it was seems impossible to believe. A new population must be created that has not the memory of the earthquake."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

NICHOLAS—"I wonder if the New Year will be like the last."
—*Humoristische Blaetter* (Vienna).

THE AMERICANIZATION OF CANADA

CANADA is enthusiastically "Yankee," says a writer in the *Tour du Monde* (Paris). Farmers from the United States are crowding into the Canadian Northwest, and the imperialistic journals of London are becoming alarmed. They have reason for their trepidation, declares this writer. "The influence of the United States is completely transforming Canadian life. The great cities of the St. Lawrence all publish papers written, edited, and printed after American models." "From the editorials to the sporting news, these papers are steeped in Yankee slang." "The cablegrams printed in these Canadian papers come from New York and are supplied by a syndicate over which the famous anglophobe William Randolph Hearst presides." "Almost the whole book trade and periodical trade along the St. Lawrence is fed by American books and periodicals." "The hotels of the Dominion are clumsy copies of American hotels." To quote further:

"New-York fashions in the way of clothing are servilely imitated by the Canadians. American games such as baseball, and American sports, such as go-as-you-please races, have entirely supplanted, at least in Western Canada, such British games as cricket and football. In Western Canada the cigars are of American make, and chewing-tobacco, of which Yankees are immoderate consumers, is also used to an immense extent."

In vain are the efforts of British Imperialists to stop the tide of Americanism. It is like Mrs. Partington's attempt with her broom to sweep back the waves of the sea. As this writer remarks:

"English Imperialists are proposing to encourage the Anglo-Saxon subjects of King Edward to emigrate to Canada. But even if the stream of fresh natives from England should succeed in re-enforcing the British element in the colony, it is to be feared that these 'loyal subjects,' once transplanted to this continent, would quickly come under the sway of the Yankee contagion."

The only safeguard for Canada lies in the French population of the St. Lawrence, altho this writer does not tell us how largely the manufacturing and lumber districts of New York and New England are peopled by what are styled "Canucks." He deals with the question as follows:

"It is a very curious circumstance that the great obstacle to the complete Americanization of Canada lies, as far as we can see, in the French element, which has a preponderating moral influence on the banks of the St. Lawrence. Thanks to their language and their religion French Canadians have so far remained unaffected by the moral and political influence of their southern neighbors. It is this conquered people, ancient French colonists subjugated by England, who guard and keep in the possession of the Crown of England its most splendid colonial jewel."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

ANOTHER JUDGMENT OF SOLOMON.
Both claim the New Year. Which shall have him?
—*Fischietto* (Turin).

GRIM POSSIBILITIES OF 1909.

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IS CHINA TAKING THE BACK TRACK?

APPREHENSION is felt by some European papers that the deposition of Yuan Shih-Kai means that the new Chinese Government is hostile to the spirit of progress that seemed to be stirring in the Empire. He was the leader in the progressive movement, and he is the first victim of the new Regent. The United States, British, and German Ministers at Peking have all taken opportunities of expressing their surprize, if not their disgust, at the sudden deposition of this powerful viceroy and president of the Imperial Foreign Office. This "strong man of China," as he was called, represt the opium traffic, reformed the army, modernized education, gave protection to foreigners, and, in a word, represented the West in the East. The news of his fall has struck the ear of Europe with the same amazement as did the news of Bismarck's dismissal. The immediate cause of his deposition, we learn, was his determined opposition to official corruption, his most vindictive enemy being the reactionary Viceroy Chang Chih Tung. The foreign ministers in Peking may not be able to suggest his reinstatement, says the London *Standard*, but they can at least "express the hope to the Regent that this step does not mean, what everybody in China, or with knowledge of China, will infallibly construe it to mean—namely, the reversal of the progressive policy with which Yuan Shih-Kai was identified."

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

From the painting by Hubert Vos.

The deposition of this progressive leader is thought to indicate the hostility of the new rulers of China to Western ideas.

The opinion of Europeans who have dealings with China is well summarized by *The Westminster Gazette* (London), in which we read:

"The fall of Yuan Shih-Kai will be of immense significance if it is to be interpreted as the triumph of the most reactionary element in the Government of China. Yuan Shih-Kai was not only the ablest of contemporary China administrators. To a greater degree than any other prominent statesman in the country he realized where lay the weakness of China and the policy that must be pursued if she was ever to take her proper place among the great nations. To his sagacity at the time of the Boxer rising was due the safety of the legations, and with it the continuance of the present Chinese dynasty. His dismissal now on the pretext that he is suffering from an affection of the foot comes within two months of the change of rulers, and at a time when the new reign has to give proof of its tendencies. Altho the step taken by the representatives of the Powers is an unusual one, it can scarcely be matter of surprize that they seek sanction for the inquiry whether the dismissal means the reversal of the progressive policy of Yuan Shih-Kai. That it does is agreed by those with a knowledge of China."

The Peking correspondent of the London *Times* remarks:

"No man in China deserved better of his country. He has been in the forefront of progress, and is the best administrator China has produced in this generation. When Governor of Shantung in 1900 his action in resisting the Boxer insurrection and in safeguarding foreigners really saved the Empire from disruption. He created China's modern army and was the leader of the modern educational movement in China, and his famous memorial of September 2, 1905, urging the summary abolition of the antiquated system of literary examination, was epoch-making. Under his Viceroyalty the metropolitan province became the most advanced in the Empire. With Tang Shao-yi he led the antiopium movement. Since he entered the Ministry for Foreign Affairs China has attained a measure of respect among the Powers which was unknown before."

Commenting editorially on this incident, the leading London daily observes of the deposed minister:

"His capacity as an administrator was demonstrated by the success with which he raised, trained, and paid a considerable body of really serviceable troops, equipped, organized, and drilled upon Western models. That is a feat which no Chinaman has ever before accomplished; and the proof which he has given that it can be achieved may one day have results important, not only to China, but to mankind. Yuan Shih-Kai insisted strongly in theory upon the sovereign rights of his country, and protested against the encroachments upon them by foreigners; but in practise he showed a statesmanlike understanding of the real position of China among the nations, and of her inability to assert her claim to rank among them as an equal until she has brought her manners and her institutions to the level imposed by modern civilization.

"In order to raise her to this level he gave a steady and vigorous support to the movement in favor of Western education, which already promises to bear a surprizing harvest.

"For the same reason he took the lead in the agitation against opium. He had seen the pernicious effects of the opium habit in his efforts to create an army, and he had actually succeeded in suppressing it among his recruits. This, of course, was a powerful argument in reply to the opponents of the famous antiopium edicts. Like many other ambitious politicians, Yuan Shih-Kai had often to surrender his own better judgment in deference to the prejudices and the interests of those with whom he had to work. He has not been wholly free from the faults and weaknesses of Oriental statesmen, but our correspondent says no more than the truth when he affirms that in the eyes of the foreign representatives in Peking the great Viceroy stood for order, for stability, and for progress."

RUSSIA'S AGRARIAN REVOLUTION

THE land question has always been the hinge of a revolution. Private ownership of land was brought to the French peasantry through the devastations of the guillotine. Somewhat similarly the land question has constantly been to the front during the slower and more smoldering revolution of Russia. At present the common land of the mir is all the peasants enjoy. For the Russian peasant there has not been a square foot which he can possess, convey, or buy under his individual title. But the Russian Parliament is now seeking to alter all this. The mir, in spite of much opposition, is to be abolished. This movement resembles in some ways our Government's new plan of allotting the Indian tribal lands to individuals. Some argue that the Russian peasant will sell his allotment, waste the money, and become a pauper, while others maintain that his little plot of land will be the making of him.

This profound change in the economic and social conditions of rural Russia has, according to all interpreters, been recently decreed or sanctioned by the third Douma. The Government's bill for the gradual dissolution of the mir (the village communal system of land tenure), an ancient and famous institution, and the conversion of the peasants into individual proprietors with full liberty to buy and sell land, has been accepted by a decisive majority. The principal provisions have been approved, and the rest is regarded as a mere matter of formality and detail. The bill gives legal effect to a decree which the Government promulgated "between Doumas," tho its right to take that momentous step was vehemently denied by the advanced constitutionalists. Under the "fundamental law" rejection of the bill by the Douma would have caused the temporary act to lapse.

There was much agitation and uncertainty regarding the fate of the bill. Its failure was predicted by some and feared by Premier

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Stolypine. It was rumored that the Premier would resign at once in the event of adverse action on his pet measure, and that a reactionary ministry would be formed by Dournovo, Witte's Minister of the Interior and an anticonstitutionalist. Those rumors, it is said, influenced many doubters and opponents of the "revolutionary" bill in its favor. To save the Douma and avert reaction the bill was adopted.

The St.-Petersburg press is divided on the question, but all the progressive organs are apprehensive or bitter. The Government is charged with breaking with the past, recklessly destroying a historic institution, and sacrificing the interests of the peasant masses for the sake of a political advantage and a mere theory as to the "right" system of land tenure. The *Riech* declares that in Russia so-called individual ownership will mean a rural proletariat on the one hand and on the other a minority of shrewd, unscrupulous "exploiters" and usurers into whose hands the bulk of the land will fall. It is sure that few peasants, if not bribed by favors, flattery, and bureaucratic patronage, would deliberately vote to permit the peasants to expropriate themselves. The *Viedomosti*, a Moderate-Liberal organ, says:

"If it were proposed to remedy defects in the communal system, no objection could be raised, but the lawmakers go further and undertake, under a preconceived notion, to determine once for all what form of ownership the peasants shall maintain. This is a radical error, betokening ignorance of the whole agrarian situation. . . . It is hard to believe that the peasant will grasp those political and administrative motives which prompt the Douma majority and the ministers. The hungry, land-poor peasant will judge simply and plainly—To him that hath shall be given. The less fortunate peasants will be deeply offended and feel that their last resource is gone."

Even the editor of the *Grajdanin*, a Conservative journal, deplores the law and severely blames the Octoberist party. "Having disposed of the commune," it says, "the Octoberists again demonstrate that they will shrink from no violence to national institutions and customs so long as such gymnastics promise them supremacy in a party sense."

The Premier's organ, *Rossia*, contends that the "new order" is incompatible with the outworn, compulsory system of common ownership. The peasant, like other citizens, must be a free man, and his property should be his to manage as he will. There will be no agricultural and industrial progress in Russia, it asserts, until individual property in land is recognized. It sneers at those admirers of Western ideas who stick at land reform in the Western sense. Why should the peasant be ruined by a system which is good for everybody else? It adds sarcastically:

"The noble landowner may sell everything to his last stitch, and no one talks of the destruction of his estate; the merchant, the petty tradesman, the workman may do as he pleases with his own, yet no one is afraid of ruin. But the poor peasant must be tied to the commune and protected against himself. And, strangely enough, the more you give him the poorer he is."

The Government, however, has been forced to admit the need of supplementary legislation to prevent the thriftless, the drunkards, and the incompetents from selling their land and leaving their families destitute. This is a contingency that the old-fashioned mir has so far been successful in obviating. This, however, is thought to have been effected at the expense of that training in self-respect, independence, and prudence in which the ordinary moujik has shown himself to be deficient. It is hoped by most writers that the new law will prove barren or ineffective for decades. What Russian peasants need, say the advanced Liberals, is more land, compulsory-purchase laws, not the sudden destruction of an institution that has made for solidarity, for responsibility, for security, the establishment of a system that under existing conditions will only multiply paupers and vagrants and starving job-hunters in the cities.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

AMERICAN PROVINCIALISM

A RATHER severe and scathing arraignment is brought against our countrymen by Herbert W. Horwill in the English Imperialistic *National Review* (London). The Rev. Mr. Horwill is a Methodist of high attainments and much brilliancy as a journalist, and he speaks from personal observations made here. He gives quotations from *The Congressional Record* as yielding "interesting material for an account of the natural history of the spread eagle." He quotes a member of the national parliament at Washington as describing Congress as "the supreme council of the greatest nation of recorded time." This and other like utterances are of "the style of eloquence which Dickens recorded." He pays his compliments in this manner to Senators Bailey and Thurston. The former gentleman is quoted as speaking in the following strain in the course of a speech made against the suggested subdivision of Texas into five separate States:

"The history of the world does not furnish a sublimer courage, a more unselfish patriotism, than that which illumines almost every page in the early history of Texas. Students may know more of other battle-fields, but there is no one baptized in the blood of braver men than Goliad. Historians may not record it as among the great and decisive battles about which they write, and yet the victory of the Texans at San Jacinto is destined to exert a wider influence upon the happiness of the human race than all the conflicts which established and subverted the petty kingdoms of the ancient world. Poets have not yet immortalized it in their most enduring verse and yet the Alamo is resplendent with a nobler sacrifice than Thermopylæ itself, because while Thermopylæ had her messenger of defeat, the Alamo had none."

The rhetorical flights of Dr. George Cary Eggleston and others are also treated as specimens of "self-complacent provincialism" arising from "a colonial ignorance of what has been done, and is being done, outside the United States." To quote his words:

"This ignorance is fostered by those very features of the American's native surroundings which are mistakenly supposed to stimulate a broad outlook. The supposition that to be born in a large country is in itself a liberal education is a curious fallacy. It is not uniformity, but variety, that quickens intellectual activity. In this respect the advantage is not with the American, but with the European. The fact that the United States measures nearly three thousand miles from east to west, with an ocean on either side, does not magically expand the mind of the individual American; it simply makes it necessary for him to travel farther to escape the conditions with which he has been familiar all his days. . . . In most Europeancoun tries, on the other hand, the comparative nearness of the national boundaries to a man's birthplace makes it the easier for him to pass over them. If you live in Birmingham, for example, you can put yourself into an entirely foreign environment before the resident in Kansas City has crossed the Ohio."

This geographical isolation, with its narrowing effect, according to this reverend journalist, is made more direful still from its complication with political isolation, which, we are told, has long kept "the average American ignorant" and even "indifferent" about what has been going on in "the outside world." Hence we read:

"The necessity of making acquaintance with what is happening elsewhere in the world has been minimized for Americans, until lately, by the political isolation of the United States. That country has been spared not only the entanglement of foreign alliances, but also the educating influence of direct contact with foreign problems. Its freedom from European complications, however helpful on the whole to the development of its internal resources, has certainly tended to circumscribe the ideas of its people. Further, in the Old World, even if we are not able to go abroad, a constant appeal is made to the imagination by visible memorials of past centuries. We can travel in time, if not in space. We have before our eyes persistent reminders that the civilization of the twentieth century is not the sudden creation of our own contemporaries, or of a generation immediately preceding, but has been slowly built up by the genius and toil of our forefathers."

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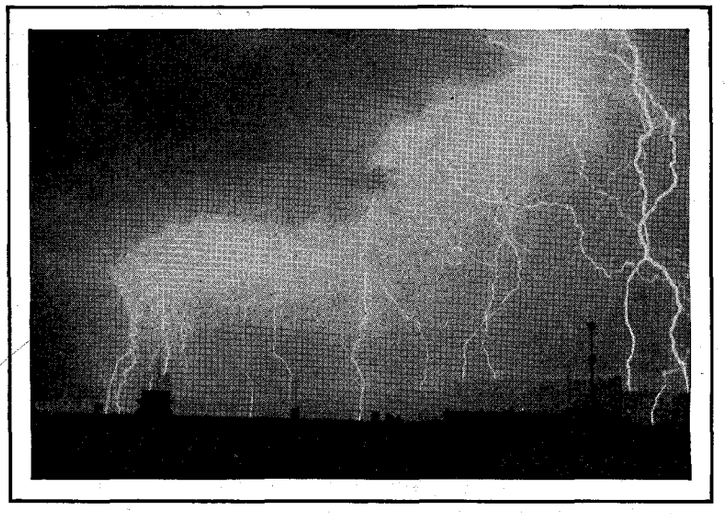
SOME FREAKS OF LIGHTNING

CURIOUS stories connected with the manner of death of victims of lightning-stroke are discust by an editorial writer in *The Lancet* (London, January 2). Many of these are doubtless superstitions or inventions, but others are certainly true, tho it is difficult to draw the line between the two classes. Sometimes the person struck by lightning is stript of his clothing or his hair is singed off, without other injury. Sometimes the victim is struck dead, but stiffened into the semblance of a statue. When touched, the body often crumbles into dust. Cases are on record where the picture of some adjacent object has been printed on the victim by the lightning-flash, and paralysis and rheumatism have sometimes been cured by lightning, altho this treatment is not recommended. Says the writer:



THIRTY SECONDS OF LIGHTNING.

This picture was made by an exposure of half a minute during a thunder-storm.

"Perhaps the most surprizing result of a lightning-stroke is to be seen in those cases where no real harm is produced, tho the injury to the clothing may make it certain that the lightning did hit the person, and even a watch-chain has been fused without injury to its owner. It is, however, more common for temporary unconsciousness to be present, even if perfect health is regained. A very curious effect is sometimes produced. The person struck is killed and yet he remains in the very attitude in which he was at the moment of death. Eight farm laborers were resting at dinner-time under an oak when they were all struck and killed by the same flash of lightning. When found they appeared to be still eating. One held a glass, another was carrying a piece of bread to his mouth, and a third had his hand on a plate. In another case a woman was struck while picking a poppy. The body was found standing with the flower still in her hand. The most probable explanation of these occurrences is the instantaneous onset of rigor mortis, and it has been shown experimentally that in animals killed by electricity the onset of rigor mortis can be hastened by increasing the strength of the current. . . . . .

"Perhaps the most curious accompaniment of a lightning-shock is the stripping off of the clothes. This appears to be very common. Dr. G. Wilks, of Ashford, Kent, describes a case in which a man was struck by lightning while standing by a willow-tree. Immediately afterward his boots were found at the foot of the tree and the man was lying on his back two yards off, absolutely naked except for part of the left arm of his flannel vest. He was conscious but much burned and his left leg was broken. The field around was strewn with fragments of the clothes which were torn from top to bottom. The boots were partly torn. Flammarion mentions a case in 1898 in which three women were standing round a reaping-machine when one of them was struck by lightning and killed; the two others were uninjured, but they were stript absolutely naked, even their boots being removed."

It has been suggested that the stripping of the clothes is caused by the rapid formation of steam. When trees are struck the bark is frequently torn off, probably by the electricity passing between it and the wood. It is not unreasonable to imagine that the same explanation applies to the removal of clothes. We read further:

"Little less remarkable is the shaving effect which is sometimes seen. Two men who were in a windmill were struck by lightning. They were both rendered deaf and the hair, beard, and eyebrows of one were burned. A woman who was struck had the hair of her head completely removed. Sometimes the hair returns and sometimes the part is permanently bald. . . . . .

"In the case at Krugersdorp bones were broken and a few other similar cases are recorded. Probably in some of them the fracture was caused by the fall. Flammarion mentions a case in which eight sheep were struck; all their bones had been broken as tho crusht in a mortar; the fall would not account for this. . . . When an electric current is passed through a number of persons holding hands it is generally felt most by those at the end of the chain, and several cases have been recorded in which only those which may be called the terminals of a series of animals are damaged. Five horses in a line received a stroke of lightning; only the first and the last were killed. On another occasion five horses in a stable were struck; the only one to escape death was the one in the center. Several remarkable accounts have been recorded where alternate animals of a series have been killed. During a storm in 1901 lightning entered a stable where there were twenty cows and it killed ten of them. The first, the third and so on, were killed, while the second, the fourth, and so on, survived. It is certainly difficult to explain cases such as these, but it would be unwise to deny the possibility of their occurrence. Cases of complete incineration are not rare, but more remarkable are the instances in which the body of a man killed by lightning has appeared to be unaltered, but when touched it has crumbled to dust. In 1838 three soldiers took shelter under a tree and a stroke of lightning killed them all, but they all remained standing, and even their clothes appeared to be intact, but when touched the bodies fell into a heap of ashes. The lower animals appear to be more liable to be struck than human beings. . . . A whole herd of cattle or sheep may be destroyed by lightning. Two hundred and sixteen sheep out of 288 have been struck, and on one occasion 2,000 goats are said to have been destroyed at one time. In a storm cattle and sheep herd together, and this fact probably increases their danger."

Representations of surrounding objects are sometimes said to have been imprinted on the victims' skins by a lightning-discharge. Nearly always the picture is that of a tree and may be merely a branching mark made by the electricity. While not denying the possibility of such picture-making, the writer considers the evidence quite insufficient. He goes on:

"In one case a woman was minding a cow and they were both struck by lightning when sheltering under a tree. The cow was killed, but the woman, tho for a time unconscious, soon revived; on her breast was seen a representation of the cow. Here also a healthy skepticism is reasonable, for the picture of the cow was only seen by peasants. On the summer of 1865 a Dr. Derendinger was returning home by train; when he got out at the station his purse was missing. It was of tortoiseshell and on one side it had a monogram of two D's intertwined. Some time later Dr. Derendinger was called to see a stranger who had been found unconscious under a tree, having been struck by lightning. The first thing he noticed on examining the man was that there was on the thigh a picture of his own monogram, the intertwined D's; he resuscitated the man, who was taken to the hospital. Dr. Derendinger said that his purse would probably be found in the patient's pocket, and so it proved. This case is certainly more easily understood, for the metal of the monogram would prove a good conductor, and so we can imagine how its image might be imprest on the skin. Similar cases are recorded of the imprinting of money

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and other metallic objects on the skin by lightning-strokes, and it is common to find burns of the body over metallic bodies such as watches. . . . . .

"Lastly, we have to consider whether any benefit ever follows a lightning-stroke. The evidence is not voluminous, but a certain number of cases have been recorded of amelioration of symptoms. An innkeeper, who had had much rheumatism so that he walked with a stick, was struck by lightning. He was unconscious for a time and his sight was affected for ten hours, but when he recovered he was able to walk, his rheumatism was so much improved that he could do without his stick, and his sight was also better. Chronic rheumatism appears to be the malady most commonly reported as cured or improved by a lightning-stroke; less satisfactory is the evidence of the removal of a tumor. A few cases of paralysis have recovered under the influence of lightning, but certain cases of paralysis are very amenable to any sudden shock. We are told of a woman who had been paralyzed for thirty-eight years recovering the use of her legs after a lightning-stroke. A man who had had the whole of his left side paralyzed since infancy was struck by lightning. For twenty minutes he was unconscious, but some days later he began gradually to recover the use of his limbs, and the recovery was permanent, and the sight of the right eye was better than it had been before; unfortunately, the accident made him deaf."

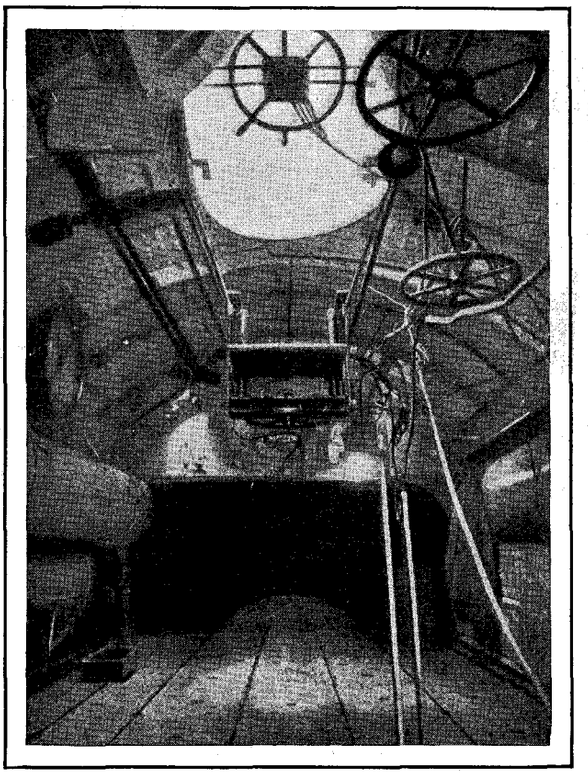
SHALL WE CLEAN THE COWS' TEETH?

A RECOMMENDATION that the teeth of dairy cows be cleaned twice daily appears in a paragraph on "The Dangers of Milk," printed in *The Daily Telegraph* (London, December 25). This is based on advice given by Dr. Tanner, of Los Angeles, Cal., who, we are told, is now conducting a health campaign in that city. Says the paper just named:

"Dr. Tanner is convinced that bovine teeth harbor many germs hitherto unsuspected, and that these frequently contaminate children's milk, producing all kinds of complaints which his fellow practitioners have talked wisely about but do not in the least understand. He recommends that the teeth of all dairy cows should be cleaned twice daily, and says that this law should be compulsory."

This moves *The British Medical Journal* (London, January 2) to much mirth. In a note headed "Cows and Tooth-brushes," after unfavorable comment on the general character of medical news in the daily press, it quotes the paragraph given above and then says:

"It is well that this important pronouncement should receive prominent notice and not be lost to the world. The doctor, who is evidently learned above his fellow practitioners, might have gone a step further and given some directions as to the method of carrying out this bovine dental toilet. Of a well-known character in Chaucer it is recorded, 'He scrubbed his mouth with sope and eke with sand.' But both soap and sand might possibly be objected to by the learned doctor on the ground that they might travel by the same route as the malevolent germ, and find their way into the milk. We would suggest in place of either of them the employment of the tooth-brush. As in the case of the Scot with the ample nose regarding the use of snuff, the cows with their dental development would afford 'gran' accommodation' for the implement proposed. Again, as the germs are not likely to be restricted to the regions of the teeth, but would probably find a location in other parts of the mouth and pharynx, we would further suggest that each cow should be supplied with an antiseptic gargle."



INTERIOR OF A BRITISH SUBMARINE.

PROGRESS OF THE SUBMARINE

SUBMARINE vessels have continued to grow in size and military importance, in spite of setbacks, accidents, and the skepticism of the older naval men, we are told by Robert G. Skerrett in *The Iron Age* (New York, January 7). A few years ago, says this writer, they showed all of the hall-marks of engineering inexperience, but since then they have progressed rapidly, and to-day the best of them are thoroughly serviceable units in a scheme of seaboard defense. This is partly the consequence of general progress in the mechanic arts, but the major part is attributable to scientific analysis of accidents. Under-water boats have actually been the cause of only moderate loss of life, but the harrowing circumstances of submarine accidents have given them prominence in our minds. France has the largest number of submarines, and Great Britain comes next; but according to Mr. Skerrett, the recent achievement of the small Italian submarine flotilla puts all other performances quite in the shade. He says:

"The Italian flotilla consists principally of four boats of only 220 tons submerged displacement, which were launched successively in 1905, 1906, and 1907, and which have taken part, as they were completed, in the naval maneuvers of the past three summers to the satisfaction of the authorities.

"It was not until this season, however, that all four of the boats were able to maneuver as a unit, and it is putting it mildly in saying that what they did during the month of August just gone was startling. Part of the scheme of the naval maneuvers included a raid by these boats along both the Adriatic and the Mediterranean coasts, and the *Glauco*, *Narvalo*, *Otaria*, and *Squalo* were called upon to make unassisted the run of nearly 1,300 nautical miles from Venice to Spezia! The little boats accomplished this without mishap and with remarkable celerity, and arrived upon the scene of the grand maneuvers with their crews in splendid condition and able to take their part in the concluding operations in connection with the combined fleets. In this latter stage the little vessels were again handled by their officers and crew with so much skill that the King summoned them aboard the flag-ship *Vittorio Emanuele* and personally congratulated both the commanders and the enlisted men. One of the circumstances leading to this rather unusual honor was the especial performance of the *Glauco*, the first of the flotilla completed, which in broad daylight was able to actually hit the battle-ship *Saint Bon* twice, despite the vigilance of picket-boats and the watch aboard the big ship, before rising to the surface and showing her nearness.

"The position of excellence won by the Italian boats is of particular interest because Italy did not figure conspicuously until within the last four years in this branch of naval architecture. While England, France, Russia, and the United States were spending large sums of money in buying or building various types of submarines, Italy was going along in a quiet way experimenting

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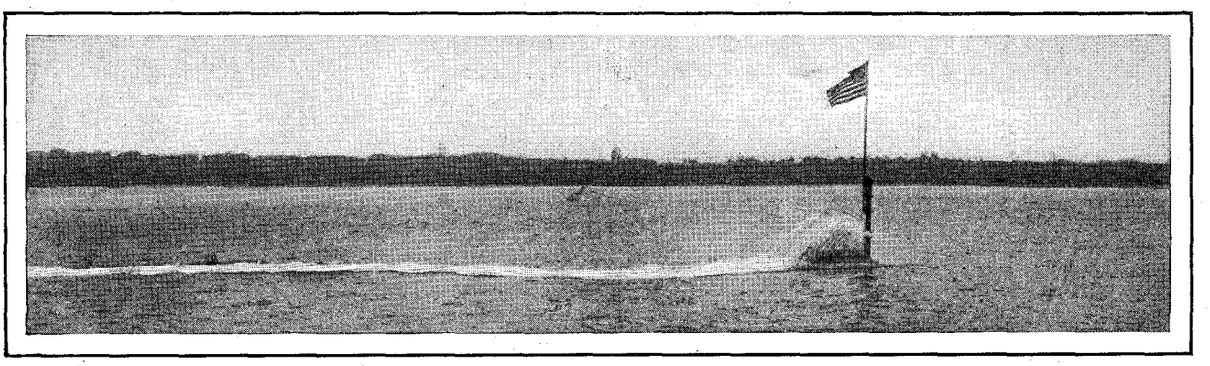


A HARD MARK TO HIT.

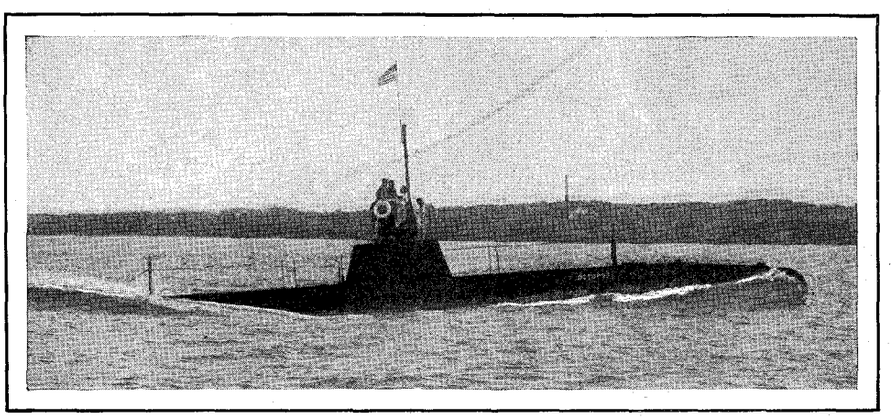
The *Octopus* under water. In actual warfare it would present almost no sign of its presence. Italian submarines have been able in trials to approach battle-ships without detection in broad daylight.

with her old submarine, *Delfino*, modified. The lessons thus learned at a modest outlay were carefully evaluated, and the *Glauco* and her remarkable classmates have been the outcome. Surely the records made by these little vessels stand out in brilliant contrast with the results recently secured from our own boats during their run to Philadelphia and return to New York, a distance each way of approximately 300 miles."

That the submarine may altogether displace the destroyer is thought probable by Mr. Skerrett. The high-speed torpedo craft of this type have grown to such sizes that they make very considerable targets, and at night betray their approach either by their size or the disturbance due to their speed. Says the writer:

"It is urged that the destroyer be abandoned and that scouts, pure and simple, be built in their stead, and that submarine craft be developed for the primary purpose of providing a satisfactory mobile base from which to discharge torpedoes. The modern submersible can be made ready to dive in 6 minutes after she has been running on the surface in light trim, which is a very material gain in powers of quick disappearance over the 20 or 30 minutes called for only a short while ago for vessels of very moderate displacements. In addition to this the latest boats are able to run in cruising trim at a speed of 15 knots an hour, while they are accredited with submerged speeds of 9 knots an hour.

"In broad daylight all that the submarine craft shows above the surface when making an attack is the slender tube and small head of her observing-instrument, and this is now so installed that it can be thrust above the surface or withdrawn out of sight without altering the depth of submergence of the submarine boat. As the attack upon the Italian battleship showed, and as experience during a number of the French maneuvers have substantiated, it is possible for these vessels to get within striking distance of their targets in broad daylight."



THE AMERICAN SUBMARINE "OCTOPUS" COMING TO THE SURFACE.

The average layman, Mr. Skerrett assures us, does not realize how the automobile torpedo has been developed within the past few years in range, speed, and destructive force. Not very long ago 800 yards was considered its maximum efficient range, and yet to-day, owing to the use of a superheater, which doubles the motive air capacity, the range has increased to 4,000 yards at a speed of 28 knots, while for the first 1,000 yards the big 18-inch torpedo can be driven at 43 knots. The writer concludes:

"As a surface torpedo-boat can not do this work without inviting well-nigh certain destruction, the submarine boat is apparently the only torpedo craft that can lie at a distance of 4,000 yards in the daytime, submerged of course, and profit by the increased range which has been given the up-to-date torpedo. The periscope of a few years ago would have made this quite impossible, because its defective optical properties gave no idea of true distances after an object had passed 200 or 300 feet away. To-day, thanks to the genius of the optician, this difficulty has been overcome, and the officer in command of a submerged submarine is able to judge with remarkable accuracy the approximate range of his target, while further improvement has given to this eye of the submarine all of the properties of a good night-glass for making observations after dark. The submarine vessel is thus surely coming into its own, and it is but another proof of what can be expected when a field of usefulness is established for any military instrument and the inventor and his more finished brother, the technicist and practical man, put their heads together to solve the problem and to meet a commercial demand."

THE POOR INVENTOR

PATENT number 900,000 has recently been issued. The first of the series was put forth on July 28, 1836. How many of this great host paid back to their originators their cost in money, time, and labor? *The American Machinist* (New York, December 24) thinks that the smallness of the percentage, if it could only be made known, would startle most people. Says this paper:

"Any one who has studied the subject, or personally 'played the game,' knows that the number of patents that see their inventors out whole is pitiably small.

"The reasons for this condition are many. Some deluded inventors—only a few, perhaps—work on problems that are impossible, as perpetual motion. We know one poor individual who has worked on perpetual-motion machines for fifteen years, spent some $26,000, and built some sixty models. He imagines that mechanical advantage can produce a larger amount of power from a smaller one through proper mechanism. Other inventors—in this class are many—work on devices that may accomplish what they desire, but the end is foolish. To illustrate: A device to lower a latch-key from an upper window at a certain time for the convenience of the morning milkman was actually patented. Others develop improvements on outgrown arts. Such would be an improved tinder-box to-day,

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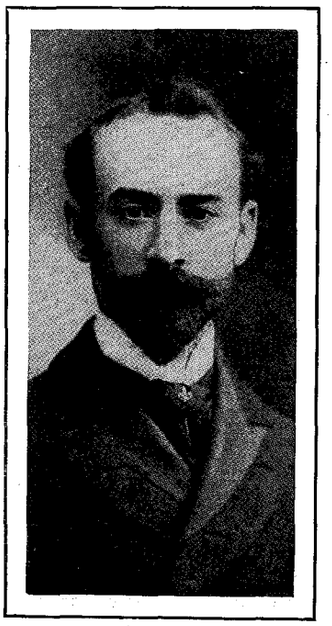
when 1,000 matches can be bought for a nickel. Others may work out devices or processes that have no market and thus no commercial value, and a much smaller class of inventors are ahead of their times and work out inventions that some time society will use, but not during the life of the patent. How often does a patent-search reveal the work of some man, done years before, that discloses the principles of a recent development that it is desired to patent?

"We have no patience, and, in fact, we have little else than contempt for the gospel which is preached by so many that invention is the royal road to fortune. There are few more disheartening experiences than the efforts of the average inventor without means to enlist others in financially backing his invention. The occasional and even brilliant exceptions to the rule do not alter the fact that the patenting of even meritorious inventions by those who have no means to exploit them usually represents wasted effort and money of which the bare cost of the patent is frequently the smallest item."

WHY WE SHOULD CARE FOR THE BABY TEETH



DR. H. CLAY FERRIS,

Who tells us how the beauty of childhood may be preserved by proper care of the teeth.

MANY people who should know better think that because the first set of teeth is a temporary one, no care need be exercised with regard to it; and they allow their children's teeth to fall into bad condition. This is as sensible as it would be to neglect a child's eyes on the ground that they are not precisely the same in substance as the ones that are to be used by the adult. The change from one set of teeth to another, to be sure, is discontinuous, while that which takes place in the eye is continuous and gradual; but the youthful condition is almost as closely connected with the adult in one case as in the other. This is brought out by Dr. H. Clay Ferris, of Brooklyn, in an article contributed to *Items of Interest* (New York, December). From a previous article by Dr. Ferris (which was inadvertently attributed to Dr. Mitchell, of Elmira) we recently quoted his presentation of the fact that the beauty of the face depends largely on the teeth, and depends upon them in many ways unconnected with their actual appearance, so that not only one's own appearance but that of one's descendants may be affected by care or neglect in this respect. This idea the writer applies, in the present article, particularly to the temporary set. He writes:

"We find by comparative observations and measurements of skulls of increasing ages that the skull of the child grows forward and downward from the time of birth; and the greatest amount of development takes place in the dental region. Scientifically, we must admit the hypothesis that in the germ cell there exists an architectural plan for the development of the whole osseous system, requiring twenty-one years, provided its nourishment is complete. Proceeding upon this premise, the dental arches, both deciduous and permanent, are to fill certain positions in the anatomy, just as the spinal vertebræ are to form a spinal column; and as the deciduous tooth is one of the first points of ossification, we can readily see why the deciduous teeth play such an important part in the development of their region. Each tooth develops in an independent manner in its own crypt in a growing structure, but arranged according to the divine plan.

"In its independent growth, its crown is formed first and its root grows toward the structure that has been previously ossified, compelling its crown to travel in the direction of the least resistance. . . . Nature in its plan causes the anterior teeth to develop first, and the eruption of the posterior teeth in the arch, receiving the greatest resistance in the densest structure distally, are thrust outward and forward; and during eruption produce a forward pressure on an already formed continuous arch.

"After the eruption of the baby set, if in normal occlusion [shutting-together] this force in the development ceases, and there is a period of child life between the ages of two to four years when another physical force must be brought into play, if the osseous structure about the roots of these teeth is to be stimulated to normal development; this force is mastication. The Indian child is given rawhide to chew as soon as it has teeth, and with few exceptions develops a normal occlusion; while our children, the product of education, live on prepared food that requires no chewing, and normal occlusion, even in the baby set, is an exception."

At this age, Dr. Ferris goes on to say, the teeth should be separated by at least $\frac{3}{100}$ of an inch, since the permanent incisors are apt to be one-third again as wide as those of the first set. The arch that they are to fill is also much larger, and this arch practically develops in two centers with the forward growth; that of the molar region and that of the incisor region, the pre-molars, and finally the cuspids, uniting these centers. The latter tooth is cut last and crowds its way to assume the position of a keystone. Dr. Ferris goes on:

"The exercise of any muscle in a growing physical structure develops its cell tissue, and if this muscle be developed, the necessary strain brought to bear upon the osseous attachments will necessarily develop that bone. Otherwise the muscle would not be sustained. The force of mastication upon the deciduous set, therefore, causes the osseous tissue that supports them to grow. If this exercise is normally produced the growth of the bones will be manifest by the separation of the teeth in the arch.

"At the sixth year of age comes another mechanical force, in the eruption of the first molar. Its forward and outward thrust then increases the pressure on the arch in that direction. If by any accident the continuity of the arch be lost by the extraction of one or more deciduous teeth or the malocclusion of the first set, this tooth will be thrust forward prematurely, partly because of the lack of mesial resistance and by the abnormal locking of the inclined planes of its cusps, to the position that it would otherwise ultimately attain, and the development of the anterior part of the face be retarded by the loss of this pressure.

"Assuming that the continuity of the deciduous set be normal and unbroken, this king of teeth exerts its pressure upon the forward part of the arch; and the osseous development progressing normally, without interference by habits or other pathological conditions, the anterior teeth will develop into normal occlusion, and we will have nature's architectural plan completed, which will give the best beauty and most perfect artistic balance of the face that this type can attain."

Dr. Ferris' conclusion is that dentists should do all in their power to maintain the continuity of the baby set of teeth, by contouring fillings (which should be of materials that do not lose shape) and by the treatment of abscessed conditions which too frequently result in loss by extraction. If teeth have to be removed the continuity of the arch should then be maintained with a mechanical fixture to assist nature. By maintaining the arches in this way the child, Dr. Ferris assures us, will be able to develop the best beauty its type can attain.

A SHALLOW-WATER STEAMER—A new British gunboat, the *Widgeon*, runs a close second to the celebrated Western steamer that could travel on dry land provided a man was sent ahead with a watering-pot. She has a draft of only two feet five inches. Says *The Technical World Magazine* (Chicago, December):

"Its hull is built in floatable sections, arranged in such a manner that they can be easily united while afloat, thus avoiding the necessity of riveting together and launching in foreign regions where skilled labor may not be obtainable.

"It was designed to obtain the highest efficiency in regard to

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speed and propulsive effort under various conditions of load. Normally its speed is fifteen miles an hour.

"There are twin screws placed in tunnels aft, these tunnels consisting of inverted troughs raised in the skin-plating of the hinder part of the hull, the floor of the latter being very flat in order to secure the shallow draft. The crown of the tunnel is considerably higher than the water-level, and as the propeller-blades in revolving come within mere clearance distance of the top of the tunnel it will be evident that a considerable part of the propeller is also above the water-level. The tunnel, however, dips below the surface all around, that is, its edges are under water. When the screws are caused to revolve they drive the air out of the tunnels, and the water, rising to fill the vacuum thus created, causes the screws to be fully immersed.

"The *Widgeon* is 160 feet long and 24 feet 6 inches wide. The depth of hull is 6 feet."

ALCOHOL AND ART

UNDER this head some of the utterances of psychologists like Professors James and Münsterberg, who have been lately coquetting a little with alcohol, are resented by an editorial writer in *The Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette* (New York, January). He says:

"We are not a little startled to have one of the leading exponents of psychology suddenly kick out the underpinning of theory which had formed one of the supporting pillars of our notions of psycho-physical perfection, by suggesting that we need to be convivial drinkers in order to become more artistic. Can we believe our senses, or must we think of art as something dependent on a benumbing of the finer nervous structure, and, therefore, on less than our highest consciousness?

"Professor James wrote, not long since, that alcoholic intoxication stands to the poor and unlettered in the place of symphony concerts, and of literature, but, he says, 'it is a part of the deeper mystery and tragedy of life that whiffs and gleams of something that we immediately recognize as excellent, should be vouchsafed to so many of us only in the fleeting earlier phases of what in the totality is such a degrading poison.' All this we could easily believe coincided with the facts. Now comes Professor Münsterberg and tells us that the masterpieces of music and poetry which are beyond the comprehension of the poor and unlettered have been the result of the use of alcohol, and that we as a people must needs become convivial in order to appreciate these creations. It is acknowledged by Professor Münsterberg that the drug works by its inhibiting influence on certain departments of brain activity, and he also says that even small amounts interfere with normal mental activity. In other words, by moderate degrees of intoxication our highest selves are for the time benumbed, and our sentiments and feelings are let loose from the control of our saner judgment."

Such teaching, the writer thinks, either degrades art or is anything but scientific truth. It is a fact, he admits, that most of the artistic nations have hitherto happened to be peoples of a convivial habit, but he can see no evidence connecting the alcoholic item in their conviviality with their productivity in art. He goes on:

"True works of art are the soul records of lives uplifted through life's experiences into the realm of the ideal. We respond to this art expression in proportion as we see in it a record of our own inner experience. Such works are neither conceived nor worked out under the influence of a narcotic, and they appeal most highly to the sane and sober, for art is ever a serious and a healthy thing. We are perfectly aware that some distinguished writers and artists have used narcotics, but the vast majority of users of intoxicants have shown no special proficiency in these fields.

"We are not inclined to be fanatical on the temperance question, but we object to teaching which would tend to hinder, in any way, our physical, mental, and moral progress. It would seem that the will to abstain or to be temperate is far better than the being pushed to such a course through prohibitive laws, yet the amount of crime and misery prevented by the removal of places of temptation has proven far better than any sentimental waiting for time and experience to develop an individual power of self-control. Total abstinence from alcohol has lifted men from the gutter, and has never pulled them down. No saloon, nor any place of convivial drinking, ever lifted man to a higher appreciation of life, nor of what stands for the ideal in life—true art."

DISEASES OF METALS

SOME of the phenomena displayed by metals under certain conditions are strikingly like those of organic bodies suffering from what we call disease. A writer in *The Lancet* (London) reminds us that "stability" can only be a relative term, and the truth is probably that no element is absolutely stable. He goes on:

"The discovery of radium has introduced the doctrine of degradation, but whether that be definitely established or not, and radio-energy apart, spontaneous change would appear to be as true of inorganic materials as it is of organized entities. Yellow phosphorus gradually assumes a new complexion if left to the agencies of time, finishing a beautiful dark red. Is this a step in its retrograde movement toward becoming, that is, an element of a lower order? Why, again, does tin crumble to a gray powder if exposed for a long time to the cold? The change is known as 'tin plague'; the smooth surface of the metal after an exposure to 16°–45° C. for two years becomes brittle and crystalline. 'Tin plague' is even infectious, for on inoculating other masses of smooth polished tin with small portions of the crystalline metal the 'disease' spreads, the area affected increasing in diameter from three to five millimeters daily. Tinfoil succumbs to the infection in the same way and becomes crystalline and brittle right through. Why, again, does the railway line snap except that it is attacked by the same 'crystallizing disease'? It would even appear that certain metals have their 'illnesses,' as tho their activities were interfered with by a toxic process which may be pushed in many cases to such an extent that the metal 'dies.' Platinum, for example, in its colloidal form, in which it is very remarkably active, is positively 'poisoned' by prussic acidor corrosive sublimate, and its great energies cease to act; it is killed."

PORTABLE AIR-SHIPS—Portable dirigible balloons have been made fashionable in France by Count Henri de la Vaulx, and now one of these miniature vessels, as we learn from *The Car* (London) is now to be used for advertising purposes by *Le Petit Journal*. Says this paper:

"This balloon, of 950 meters, is filled with coal gas, and is furnished with a Clerget motor, 16 horse-power, which is detachable. It can take aboard two passengers, a pilot, and a mechanic, and the price is 25,000 francs [$5,000]. On a recent trip one of these vessels made a 3½ hours' run from the Aeronautic Park in St. Cloud and sailed over the Bagatelle Paddock. Descending at three o'clock, it was packed on a wagon, and at five o'clock was back at St. Cloud."

A PORTABLE DIRIGIBLE BALLOON.

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THE GIPSY EVANGELIST

HESITATING to say that he was "destined to be an evangelist," Gipsy Smith declares that after his conversion he perceived that he could be nothing else. This perception came when he was in his teens, soon after his conversion in the little Primitive Methodist Chapel in Cambridge, England, in November, 1876. He had just mastered his alphabet, we read in *The Christian Advocate* (New York), and had got no further than spelling his own name and spelling out a few words of one syllable. He continues his story:

"Then came my conversion, which instantly gave me not only a new vision of life and a new hunger for the Word of God, but a new motive behind my desire to learn. My conversion meant a tremendous lot for me. I felt that I was a new creature and that I had received a spiritual experience which was going to change the entire course of my life and make the world a new world and people a new people to me. My conversion experience so possest me that I could not keep it to myself. I wanted everybody to know what I knew and to share in my new joy. I could not help becoming an evangelist, and I began at once to do evangelistic work in my own crude, primitive way. I wanted to make it known that I had given my heart to God and that I had found in Jesus a wonderful Savior.

"As a gipsy boy I went about the villages of Cambridgeshire selling the products of my father's industry—clothes-pegs, tin pans, baskets, and other oddments. When I came to a cottage door and a woman bought anything of me, I used to say: 'Can I sing for you?' She would say: 'What can you sing?' and then I would sing either 'Who'll be the next to follow Jesus?' or 'My Jesus, I love Thee.' They were all I knew—those two hymns.

"For a time I contented myself with singing about Jesus—it was all I could do then. My first attempts at speaking were failures, and when I saw, as I often did, the women of the other cottages gathering round as I sang—some of them in tears—I did not know what to say, and I bolted. A little later, after I had had a few weeks' experience of this kind of thing, I began to put my own experience into words, and sometimes went as far as praying in the cottages with the women and children. It seemed to move the cottagers deeply to hear a gipsy boy singing and praying. There are people living in the Cambridgeshire villages to-day who remember my first evangelistic efforts. Close to my home now I have a neighbor who used to buy clothes-pegs of me, and from my study window I can see the telegraph-posts skirting the lane in which my father's caravan used to pull up. Those days come back vividly to memory when I pull aside my study curtains and look over the fields I remember from my childhood.

"My earliest efforts as a gipsy-boy evangelist, telling the story of Christ's love as I sold the cottagers their clothes-pegs, were educative to me. They made me realize my ignorance and realize that I had to train myself for my life-work."

Six months after his conversion he joined the Christian Mission under the Rev. William Booth "as the thirty-sixth evangelist of the embryo Salvation Army." Then real difficulties began because

GIPSY SMITH IN AN AMERICAN GIPSY CAMP.

of his lack of training. "I enjoyed none of the advantages of those of my colleagues who had had decent or even half decent educations, or had, in their homes, opportunities of gathering a fund of information to think and speak about." Some of the innocent subterfuges to which he was driven to help him over the hard linguistic places are told in this paragraph:

"Many a big struggle I had in those days, when I was called to address a meeting without a chairman. I chose hymns the first verse of which I knew by heart, and I gave out the verse I remembered and asked the people to sing it through. Then I chose the Scripture lessons that I could get on best with—passages of the simplest kind. Even then there would be words in almost every verse that I could not pronounce. I used to read on slowly, until I came to a big word, and then, instead of having a shot at pronouncing it, I would pause and make a little comment, taking care to resume my reading on the other side of the big word. I do not know that any one ever found me out, tho I should not have been ashamed if my ignorance had been discovered. I never posed and never disguised my ignorance. I always told my audiences that I was only a gipsy boy, and had only had a few weeks' schooling, and would make lots of blunders, but that if they would forgive me I would make fewer as I grew older and acquired more knowledge."

He does not argue from his own experience in favor of an untaught evangelism. "The day has happily passed when any ignoramus will do," he says. Further:

"The churches have blundered in that direction in days gone by, but I do not think the blunder will be often repeated. The intellectual level of

GIPSY SMITH IN THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT, PITTSBURG.

The evangelist marched on a "reforming mission" through the slums of Pittsburg at midnight January 12, followed by thousands singing gospel hymns.

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evangelists has risen and must rise with the general advance of education. The slangy evangelist must disappear. I abhor slang and never use it—first because I dislike slang intensely myself, and secondly, because the people do not want it. Give me the true evangelistic note in a man, and then add all the culture you possibly can. The future of evangelism will be bright indeed if we can rear a race of evangelists who ally rich experience of the heart and soul with high culture and refinement. I would not omit humor from the evangelist's make-up. Sometimes a flash of humor acts like a gimlet and prepares the way for a nail, when the nail might have split the board. But humor must not be allowed to gain mastery. Pathos, too, I would use, and do use. You can hold a man if you can make him both laugh and cry.

"Another fruit of my experience is that an evangelist should aim at simplicity and directness—simplicity of illustration and directness of appeal. For my own illustrations I draw constantly upon my gipsy lore, from the birds and the trees and the fields—the great world of nature, which most people understand and all people love. My long years of evangelistic work have not obliterated my native gipsy spirit. I am still a child of the open and a wild thing of the woods. I am happiest when I am among the birds in my garden. I know them all by their songs and their calls, and I love to watch their habits. My garden is full of birds' nests, and when I find nests with young birds newly hatched, I make friends with them by feeding them. A young brood of greenfinches has just been hatched in my garden, and day by day I have been feeding them. The old birds hover near quite unalarmed; they know I love them and would not hurt their young ones. And just as I love great nature I love to bring all beautiful and simple things into my gospel message, and through that gateway I find a means of entrance into human hearts, which are alike in England, in South Africa, and in America."

THE SAVING OF ST. JOHN'S

THAT St. John's in Varick Street, New York, is not to be razed will doubtless be heard with a sense of relief. Ever since the announcement that it would be closed, Trinity Corporation has been the target of attacks from many quarters, one of the most recent taking the form of a bill in preparation for introduction into the legislature, designed to repeal its charter. At a special meeting of the vestry of Trinity parish on January 20 announcement was made that after May 1, the chapel in Varick Street will be given over to evangelistic work under the conduct of the Rev. William Wilkinson, "the bishop of Wall Street." As reported by the New York *Sun*, the official statement of the rector and vestry is this:

"As already announced, the work of St. John's Chapel will be discontinued on February 1 and the work which has been carried on there will be transferred to St. Luke's.

"The conditions in the neighborhood of St. John's no longer justify the continuance of a regular parochial work there, but it is proposed by the rector and vestry to make St. John's a center of evangelistic work to meet the needs of workers employed in the warehouses and factories of that section.

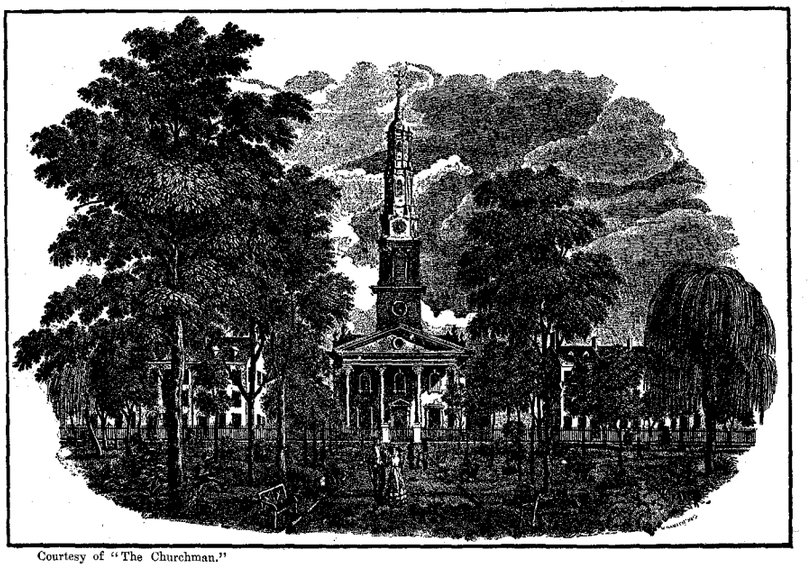
"This work has been placed in charge of the Rev. William Wilkinson, whose services for men in Wall Street are so widely known.

"It is hoped that in connection with the noonday services other departments of welfare work will be developed in the buildings adjoining the chapel.

"This evangelistic and practical work in connection with St. John's Chapel will be commenced in May, at which time Mr. Wilkinson will be able to come to New York to take charge of it."

From February 1 to May there will be no services of any kind at the chapel, it is said, tho it will be open daytimes for rest, meditation, and prayer. The evangelistic work will be undertaken as an experiment. "It will have a thorough trial, and if at the end of a reasonable length of time it does not seem to fill the spiritual needs of the locality, something else may be devised." It was unofficially stated at this meeting that Trinity has extensive plans in contemplation for bettering its properties. Said the spokesman:

"The officials of Trinity Corporation have been most unjustly maligned in their capacity as landlords, but no one besides an official of Trinity knows the terrible problem before the Corporation to work out. Fifty per cent. of its realty is leased, and the worst of the structures are on this leased land, and can not be got at by the Corporation until the lease expires. In every case, when the property reverts to the Corporation, the buildings are put in shape again. This has been going on until Trinity has wiped out all but three of its rear houses. There will be some startling changes in the old ninth ward when Trinity comes into its land again, and the changes will come soon, for the majority of leases now have but one, two, or five years to run."



Courtesy of "The Churchman."

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL, FROM THE OLD PARK IN VARICK STREET.

The church, which has become the most discust in America, as it appeared in 1829 in its surroundings before the site of St. John's Park was taken for use for a railway freight station.

The Churchman (New York) insists that in both public statements made by Trinity Corporation respecting the attitude of the late Dr. Dix toward St. John's the former rector of Trinity has been misrepresented. Dr. Dix, insists *The Churchman*, did not concur in the resolution to abandon St. John's "unless his letter to the people of St. John's, his words in his last sermon there and the following statement made to the Rev. J. C. H. Sauber, one of the curates at St. John's, each and all fail to represent his mind":

"On Thursday, March 5, 1908, the month before Dr. Dix's death, at Trinity church rectory, 'Dr. Dix exprest to me,' says Mr. Sauber, 'his great confidence in the Rev. Charles Gomph, priest-in-charge of St. John's chapel. He told me that I was to enter very discouraging and up-hill work, *i.e.*, to bring back lapsed communicants. He said that St. John's chapel was very near and dear to his heart, the chapel with which he had been most closely associated. He was also proud to say that none of the Trinity chapels *had ever been removed from their original foundations* (italics ours), and that Mr. Gomph and his associates were put at St. John's to prove that there was a congregation there to warrant its being kept open If we failed in producing that congregation, so great was his trust in Mr. Gomph, he felt that he could then say that St. John's had outlived its usefulness.' In his history of Trinity church, Dr. Dix says that Dr. Berrian resisted the sale of St. John's Park to the last, and expresses the belief that 'the horrible sight of its destruction would have broken his heart.' Dr. Dix then states simply and manfully his own responsibility as the new rector for that sale. It is a sad record, on page 237 of Part IV., but Dr. Dix does not flinch in making it, and he adds, 'and so before the rolling car of the Business Juggernaut the grace and beauty passed away forever."

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RELIGIOUS STATISTICS FOR 1908

STATISTICAL report on the religious progress in the United States shows the net increase for 1908 as 2,835 ministers, 1,874 churches, and 720,647 communicants. Each of these items, explains Dr. H. K. Carroll in *The Christian Advocate* (New York, January 14), is much smaller than in 1907; but in that year the Roman-Catholic increase was abnormally large. In striking an average of the gains in church communicants for the past six years the figure is 912,718. Last year's showing is therefore below the average; but is, the statistician thinks, "nowise discouraging." The advance for the past eighteen years is thus exhibited:

"The returns of 1908 compared with those of the census in 1890 show a net gain of communicants in the eighteen years of 13,664,236. This is more than 66 per cent., which is a very remarkable advance. The figures for 1908 are 34,282,543; for 1890, 20,618,307. The number of ministers in 1890 was 111,036; now it is 165,725, indicating a net increase of 54,691, or more than 49 per cent. There are now 213,049 churches, against 142,639 then, showing a net increase of 70,416, or a little more than 49 per cent. Net gains in the eighteen years of 49 per cent. in ministers, 49 per cent. in churches, and 66 per cent. in communicants have certainly nothing of discouragement."

Six new denominations are noted this year. The Evangelical Christian Science Church is a new body, headed by Bishop Oliver C. Sabin. No statistics are given, but many societies meet in private houses. They hold that "God heals the sick, but gave no superior revelation to Mary Baker Eddy." The Pentacostal Church of the Nazarene holds "holiness or a distinct second work of grace" as the leading doctrine. It was organized last October by union of three similar organizations in the East, West, and Southwest. It is Methodistic in usage. The Congregational Methodist Churches North is a small body formed in Pennsylvania and New Jersey resembling a cognate body in the South. The Christian Church Colored; the Disciples of Christ (Conservative), resulting from differences concerning church benevolences; and the General Conference of the New Jerusalem Church, separated from the Church of the New Jerusalem, are the three remaining. Of the incomplete Presbyterian Union we read:

"The union of the Northern and Cumberland Presbyterian bodies has left a large body of dissidents who object to the merging and are maintaining the Cumberland organization. The statistics of the United Church indicate a net loss the past year of 1,041 churches and 33,816 communicants, due probably to correction of the figures of the previous year, the churches and communicants then counted in having since indicated their purpose to adhere to the Cumberland branch. Church property is in litigation in a dozen States. It was reported at the last General Assembly of the United Church that decisions of the highest courts in Illinois and Georgia had been given adverse to the Cumberland claim; but this is denied on the part of the latter, who say that the Texas Supreme Court has decided in their favor. They also say that 35,000 members will go with 'the brick and mortar.' In other words, if the property is awarded to the Cumberland body they will remain; if to the United Church they will go thither. They claim 125,000 members out of 185,000, conceding that 25,000 have gone into the United Church to stay."

Statistics when sought were "courteously refused" by the Christian Catholic Church (organized by the late John Alexander Dowie) and the Church of Christ Scientist.

From a scrutiny of Dr. Carroll's general table of denominations we glean some of the most striking facts exprest in terms of gain or loss. The Baptists (14 bodies) report a gain of 637 ministers, 61 churches, and 100,303 communicants. The Catholics are credited with a gain of 432 ministers, 275 churches, and 340,393 communicants. The Christians show a decrease of 260 ministers, 41 churches, and 9,265 communicants. A remarkable decrease is also noted in the German Evangelical Protestant body. The returns give 65 ministers, 92 churches, and 15,000 communicants; showing a decrease of 35 ministers, 63 churches, and 5,000 communicants. The Methodists (18 bodies) gained 1,010 ministers, 817 churches, and 149,569 communicants. Other leading denominations show the following increase in communicants: Congregationalists, 13,000; Lutherans (24 bodies), 60,161; Protestant Episcopal, 23,555; United Brethren (2 bodies), 8,511, and Disciples of Christ (2 bodies), 10,300. The denominational families numbering over 100,000 are ranked thus:

Denominational Families.	Rank in 1908.	Communicants.	Rank in 1890	Communicants.
Catholic	1	12,394,731	1	6,257,871
Methodist	2	6,838,779	2	2,589,284
Baptist	3	5,413,945	3	3,717,969
Lutheran	4	2,082,766	5	1,231,072
Presbyterian	5	1,831,854	4	1,278,362
Disciples of Christ	6	1,295,423	8	641,051
Episcopal	7	893,972	6	540,509
Reformed	8	432,248	7	309,458
Latter-Day Saints	9	399,500	9	166,125
United Brethren	10	300,269	8	225,281
Evangelical	11	177,416	10	133,313
Jewish	12	143,000	11	130,406
Dunkard Brethren	13	122,332	13	73,795
Friends	14	119,176	12	107,208

Dissent from Dr. Carroll's figures is often exprest by our Roman Catholic readers. To obviate this we telegraphed for statistics to the publishers of Wiltsius's official "Catholic Directory," but were informed that statistics are not quite ready.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ON MISSIONS

THREE men chosen to fill the Presidential chair have given public indorsement to the cause of missions. President Harrison, after fulfilling his term of office, spoke in its behalf in Carnegie Hall, New York. President-elect Taft's repeated indorsements are well known. On January 18 President Roosevelt added to the number in what he said would be his last public address in Washington as the nation's chief. His audience was that assembled at the African diamond jubilee mass-meeting held in the Metropolitan Memorial Methodist-Episcopal Church. As reported by the New York *Tribune* the President said in part:

"Now, in speaking to-night I wish to lay stress upon the missionary side of the general work in the foreign lands. America has for over a century done its share of missionary work. We who stay at home should as a matter of duty give cordial support to those who in a spirit of devotion to all that is highest in human nature spend the best part of their lives in trying to carry civilization and Christianity into lands which have hitherto known little or nothing of either. The work is vast, and it is done under many and widely varied conditions. Personally I have always been particularly interested, for instance, in the extraordinary work done by the American schools and colleges in the Turkish Empire, both Turkey in Europe and Turkey in Asia—a work which has borne such wonderful fruit among the Bulgarians, among Syrian and Armenian Christians, and also among the Mohammedans; and this altho among the Mohammedans there has been no effort to convert them, simply an effort to make them good citizens, to make them vie with their fellow citizens who are Christians in showing those qualities which it should be the pride of every creed to develop; and the present movement to introduce far-reaching and genuine reforms, political and social, in Turkey, an effort with which we all keenly sympathize, is one in which these young Moslems, educated at the American schools and colleges, are especially fitted to take part.

"Bishop Hartzell's work has been done in Africa, the continent in which of all others there has been the most need for Christian work, and in which that work shows signs of reaching its widest development. It has been indeed a Dark Continent, and some of the white men who have gone thither have by their acts deepened the gloom. Let us as a race be thankful that so many other men have gone thither to strive for the uplift of the people, to strive for the betterment of conditions."

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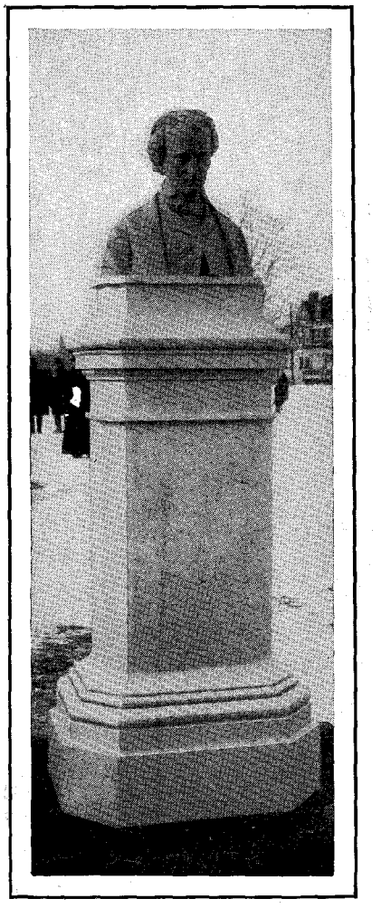
CLAIMANTS FOR POE'S BIRTHPLACE

THE contention is made by a member of the poet's family that Poe was born in Baltimore. This of course is contrary to the statements appearing in the multitudinous articles now being printed in commemoration of his centenary. The matter is not elevated into a question for sectional debate, since such representative journals as the Baltimore *Sun* and the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* give Boston as his place of birth. Elizabeth Ellicott Poe, said to be a cousin, declares in the February *Cosmopolitan*, that "to Baltimore belongs the right to call him son." Other claimants are thus disposed of:

"A house in Norfolk, Va., is shown as his birthplace, Bostonians have assured me with awful emphasis that he was born in the Hub, but as a matter of fact, Maryland, not Massachusetts or Virginia, justly claims the weird singer as her own."

The spot to which claim is made is No. 9 Front Street, which was in 1809 "a theatrical boarding-house kept by a Mrs. Beard." The remodeled structure of this building is still standing. It will be seen that many of the author's proofs are of the nature of tradition, while one of her authorities, the Baltimore *Sun*, has evidently "experienced a change of heart." We read:

"Briefly summarized, the proofs of Poe's Baltimore birth are as follows: The evidence of relatives; the fact that he was in Baltimore when two days old, when Boston was a week's coach-journey distant; the testimony of Mrs. Beard; his own statements in memoranda prepared for Griswold and verbally given to other witnesses; the Encyclopedia Britannica, Allibone's Dictionary of Authors, and all English biographers and school-records; the better informed American biographers; the Baltimore *Sun* notice of his death, and the traditional record of his birthplace kept in the family. In Poe's family the Front-Street house, Baltimore, has been pointed out as his birthplace from generation to generation."



MONUMENT TO POE.

Unveiled in Poe Park, Fordham, on January 19.

The events surrounding the birth as it is reputed to have taken place in Baltimore are given in these details:

"Near the city's crowded center, the old Holliday-Street Theater is a ghost of the past. Gone are the glories of the famous old playhouse. It is now the home of lurid melodrama. Inside the theater, through the tawdry trappings of to-day, remnants of grandeur tell of yesterday's spirit; for fifty years ago a noble player folk thronged its boards. The elder Booth, Edwin Forrest, Lucille Weston, and other famous Thespians held their magic sway. There, in the dim ago, stood young Elisabeth Arnold, afterward the mother of Edgar Allan Poe, bewitching Baltimore's bravest and best by her divine art and personal inimitable grace.

"It was in January, 1809, that, soul-sick with care and the approaching ordeal of motherhood, she acted there last. Only when the birth of Edgar was imminent, most imminent, did she retire to the Front-Street house. In that refuge, January 19, was born Edgar Poe, a child destined to poetry and misery. Front Street was then a street of stately old homes; now it is as ruined as the families that once gathered beneath their sheltering eaves. Now the undercurrent of the great city has congregated there.

"Of the intimate incident of the birth no record remains, but memory treasures the virtues of good Mrs. Beard, the Irish landlady of the house, the good Samaritan who threw around the young mother her matronly protection. Edgar's advent was premature, and Mrs. Beard hastily made wee garments for him. The next day the father obtained funds from relatives. On the second morning Mrs. David Poe, Sr., paid a visit to her infant grandson. Her pity was aroused, and, risking General Poe's displeasure, she took care of the family for six weeks."

Antiquarian research has, however, convinced Boston of the truth of its claims, and the past few weeks have established the exact spot. In *The Transcript* (January 13) Mr. Walter Kendall Watkins presents this evidence:

"The Boston *Gazette* of February 9, 1809, published the following theatrical information: 'We congratulate the frequenters of the theater on the recovery of Mrs. Poe from her recent confinement. This charming little actress will make her reappearance to-morrow evening as *Rosamunda* in the popular play of "Abællino, the Great Bandit," a part peculiarly adapted to her figure and talents.' In this production Poe [father of the poet] was *Contorino*. Mrs. Poe appeared also this month in 'Midas,' a burletta, as *Nysa*, and in the comic opera 'False Alarms; or, my Cousin,' as *Emily*. On March 20, 1809, a melodrama by George Coleman the younger, 'Feudal Times; or, the Banquet Gallery,' was presented. Mrs. Poe as *Rachel* escapes from a castle with her lover in a boat. Paddling to the bridge, the lover saws the joists, and the villain and soldiers are plunged into the moat and the castle blown up to fierce music.

"Near the theater, on Berry Street, one William Payne kept a school, when the Poes first came to Boston. A son, John Howard Payne, was born in New York in 1792. He made his first appearance as an actor in New York February 26, 1809. April 3, 1809, he appeared in Boston, in 'Douglas.' In an after-piece, 'We Fly by Night; or, Long Stories,' as *Emma*, Mrs. Poe sang 'When Edward Quits His Native Plain.'

"As a lively and sprightly support to the youthful star of seventeen, Mrs. Poe was selected to appear on April 7 as the *Juliet* to Payne's *Romeo*. On the tenth in 'Barbarossa' Payne's *Selmi* had as *Irene* Mrs. Poe. James Thomson's 'Tancred and Sigismunda' were performed respectively by the star and Mrs. Poe. On April 17 Payne had his benefit night and played *Hamlet*, while Mrs. Poe was the gentle *Ophelia*. 'For the Benefit of Mrs. Poe. Mrs. Poe respectfully informs the public, in consequence of repeated disappointments in obtaining places during Master Payne's engagements he has consented to play one night longer at her benefit. This evening, April 19, will be presented for this night only the celebrated play called "Pizarro." *Rolla* (first time), Master Payne.'

"On this occasion an original address on the drama, by a gentleman of Boston, was recited.

"Payne received for his six nights in Boston $800. His fame does not rest, however, on his acting or dramatic works, but on his authorship of 'Home, Sweet Home.' On the eighth and twelfth of May at a concert and performance of Holcroft's 'Lady of the Rock,' Mrs. Poe sang 'On the Rock Where Hangs the Willow.' The site of Poe's birthplace in Boston has never been known till this very week. It had been plausibly supposed to be in the vicinity of the Boston Theater, on Federal Street. James Dickson, the comedian and manager of the theater, lived at 25 Federal Street. His partner, Snelling Powell, the comedian, lived in Theater Alley. Catherine Butler's boarding-house, at 30 Federal Street, was also a resort for actors.

"Just before 1800 John Haskins, a merchant, owned land between Carver and Warren, now Warrenton Street. In 1801 he sold to Henry Haviland, a stucco-worker, a piece of the land. On this Haviland erected a brick building and some wooden structures. David Poe was living in this house in 1808 and in the same house

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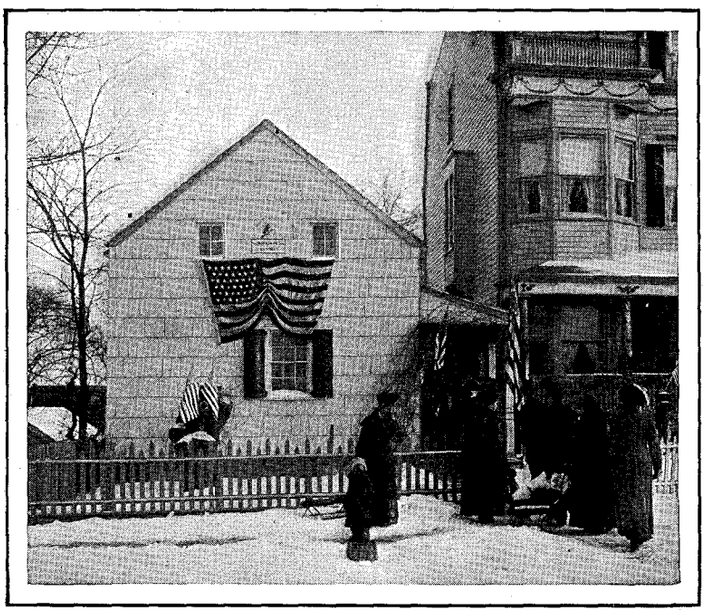
resided Haviland, Daniel Grover, an actor, Joshua Barrett, ropemaker, Moses Andrew, ropemaker, and John Hildreth.

"Carver Street, when first laid out, was known as Haskins Street. The house in which Poe resided was on the east side of the street; it was later numbered 62, and in this house was born, on January 19, 1809, Edgar Allan Poe."

HOW "THE WITCHING HOUR" WAS WRITTEN

MR. AUGUSTUS THOMAS' play, "The Witching Hour," that has had so popular a vogue, was twenty years in the making, we are told by the author himself. This long period between the inception and the final public viewing reflects, he says, "in a way, the awakening and growth of public interest in those themes which the play now exploits—telepathy, hypnotism, suggestion, and other phenomena associated with the dynamic side of thought." The play presents a professional gambler, albeit a gentleman by birth and breeding, who discovers that he has telepathic power. He turns this power into an agency for saving the life of a young friend condemned to death. The youth had committed murder in a moment of insane frenzy when a friend was flaunting before his eyes a cat's-eye scarf-pin for which he had a strange antipathy. His conviction was, moreover, the result of the vindictiveness of a prosecuting attorney who was his rival in love. *Jack Brookfield*, the gambler, having forsaken his illicit life when he discovered his peculiar endowments, knows that *Hardmuth*, the prosecuting attorney, had previously instigated the murder of a governor-elect of Kentucky, and during the second trial of the youth he prints the accusation in the papers, "reasoning that having set two hundred thousand people thinking of the prosecutor's crime, the power of their adverse thought would penetrate the locked jury-room and influence the mental attitude of the jury." The youth is acquitted. The subsequent events, even to the ridding the youth of his aversion for the cat's-eye, are traceable to the power of hypnotism and suggestion.



THE POE COTTAGE AT FORDHAM,

Jostled by modern apartment houses. This view was taken during the centenary celebration when the owner of the cottage opened it to visitors.

Mr. Thomas tells in the February *Delineator* that he began on the idea of his play about the time Mr. Washington Irving Bishop made a tour of this country, "demonstrating the existence of thought-force, telepathy, as it is now called, or 'thought-reading,' as it was then commonly known." Public interest was greatly aroused and Mr. Thomas began to meditate a play whose history he gives in these words:

"My impressions that a play could be written on the subject I communicated to Mr. A. M. Palmer, upon whose salary list I was at that time—in the year 1890—and whom former theater-goers well remember as manager of the Union Square and other well-known New-York theaters. Mr. Palmer was not only a very conservative manager but had been a librarian and was a man deeply read and widely informed. He promptly shook his head in disapproval.

"'They won't grasp your theme,' said he. 'They don't understand.'

"'But you do,' I suggested.

"'Yes,' he admitted and went on to explain that his familiarity with telepathy was altogether due to his special opportunities for information. 'The very wonder which the exhibitions of Bishop evoke,' said he, 'is proof of the fact that the public is very shallowly informed upon the subject.'

"That Mr. Palmer was correct in his judgment of the situation at that time I now believe, but at that time I felt so convinced that he was mistaken that I began a play. To convince him that the theme lent itself to play-making I wrote one act of the play in the form of a curtain-raiser, a little play complete in one act.

"In its preparation I avoided as far as possible the psychological side of the subject, and dealt, instead, with its ordinary approaches, that borderland of phenomena which is familiar to all, such as startling coincidences, seemingly inexplicable intuitions, and the like. In this little sketch I wrote two parts which I thought would be strong enough for the actor and actress I had in mind, and who were then in Mr. Palmer's company. The leading female part I was anxious to have played by Mrs. Agnes Booth, and the part of the old judge was written for Mr. J. H. Stoddart."

Mr. Thomas and Mr. Palmer did not come to terms, and the play went into the dramatist's trunk to await future opportunities. Meantime the subject grew in popular interest, the materials for drama accumulated beyond what the dramatist could begin to employ. In writing the longer play Mr. Thomas followed Mr. Palmer's "early and very judicious caution to avoid technicalities and all that involved the abstrusely psychical and scientific." He feared too that "the public might feel inclined, when the play was presented, to deny the author's premises, quarrel with his logic, and refuse his deduction." To avoid this the playwright introduced a people's attorney into the play, as he tells us here:

"In accord with this idea, I put in the play a character as commonplace, incredulous, and unsympathetic as the most ordinary individual who happened in the audience might prove to be. Such a character in the play not only became comic and human by contrast, but would also appear most comfortably sane when viewed against the background of mystery and speculation.

"Then there was that most important ethical side. When the dramatic structure of the play had been fully evolved I found that several ethical questions had been raised and not answered. To avoid them would have been cowardly; to answer them satisfactorily was absolutely necessary. Primarily, the psychical argument had been made and developed with all the skill the writer was capable of, that thought was a dynamic force—that a picture firmly and persistently held in the mind of one man could impress the mind of another and set up similar mental pictures in that second mind. If that were true, every thinker became responsible for the character of his thoughts, and in a play that had established that argument it became the duty of the writer to make the logical and moral deduction that responsibility attaches to a thinker for the character of his thinking.

"There were other minor points. For instance, there ran through the play a note of heredity—the problem of an inherited aversion or weakness. Now, it is probable that, on an average, fully ten per cent. of every audience suffers with some such handicap—an appetite for liquor, unreasoning fear of the dark, abnormal lack

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of self-confidence, and the like. Why remind your audience of these things if you do not mean to aid them? You should help them—that is the greatest object a play or story can accomplish. So it becomes a privilege in the last act to show that the inherited sense of fear exhibited by a character in the play was only the result of suggestion, was simply that character's own mental attitude, and that a little effort of the will, just another point of view, could shake it off."

The play, we are told, was a long time getting itself presented. "Managers who heard the play read were impressed by it to an unusual degree." Those who read it themselves did not like it at all. "There are some managers even now," he says, "who submit that the subjects of telepathy, hypnotism, and the like are not commonly attractive." A new one of this *genre*, "The Vampire," by Messrs. Woolf and Viereck, is at present bidding for popular approval. Mr. Thomas thinks "they are the most fascinating subjects with which the human mind has to deal."

SOME SURPRIZING VIEWS OF ART

SIR CASPAR PURDON CLARKE'S recent statement condemning the impressionist school of painting leads some to ask if he is not joking. He seems to see nothing in their work but food for mirth, and with apparent conviction declares the Hudson River school to be our best landscape-painters. In the New York *Evening Post* not long since he was quoted as selecting Bierstadt's picture of the "Rocky Mountains" as the highest achievement of American landscape art. In *The Times* (January 17) he points to Thomas Cole as one who "placed art on a sure foundation," and his picture at the Museum called "The Catskills" is declared to be "all sincere, and true, and reverent." Turning to Frederick W. Church's picture of a rainbow, he exclaims, "How well, how carefully it is done!" Pictures that tell a story, such as Millet's "Cozy Corner" and another called "The Gossips," are "always being copied," he tells us. "There are paintings in the Metropolitan Museum of Art that have been condemned by art critics as being merely illustrative, pictorial," he continues, "whereas in the very expertness of their composition, in the painstaking quality of infinitesimal detail, even in the comedy of their human character, they are superb impressions of truth in art." Then in the interview published in *The Times*, he turns on the impressionists in this manner:

"What I object to in the so-called impressionist school of to-day (which, by the way, has no sincerity of artistic impression in it), is the false example it is giving of modern art. Of course, an artist must pay his rent, and the dealer must sell his pictures, and the art critic must appear to discover a new genius for the credit of his editor and his newspaper; therefore, I quite understand how these weird, eccentric impressionist effects, that violate all the laws of painting, or art, are being done.

Property of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

THE NATIVITY, BY EL GRECO.

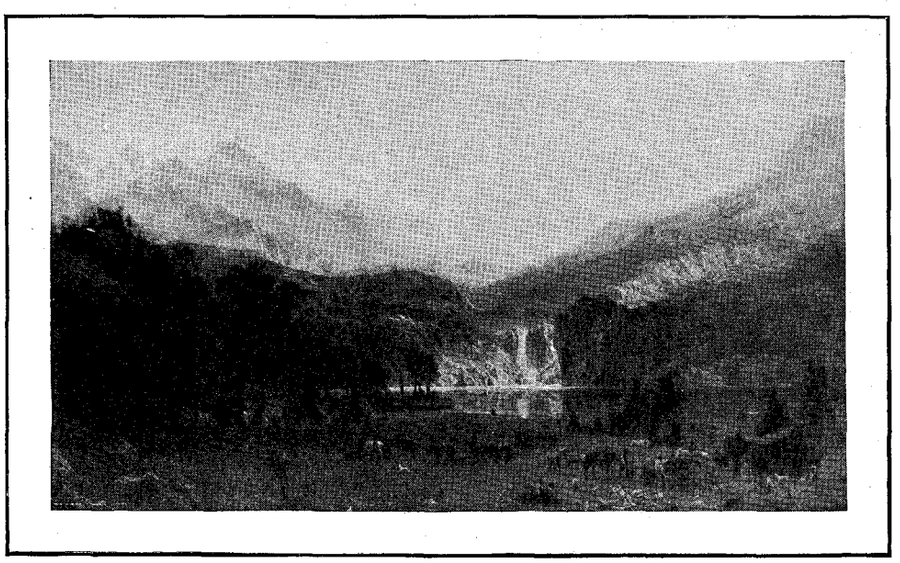
The museum paid $35,000 for this picture, but the director thinks it is "inconceivably unreal, false in construction and sentiment . . . the picture of a madman." Art critics, he says, "have written about it in the highest praise, with extreme enthusiasm."

"Before a man can be an impressionist, he must have reached a full maturity of technic, of imagination, of the values of truth. It takes a great painter to be an impressionist. It is not painting merely to put on canvas a slap-dash impression of color-effects impossible to nature.

"It is possible for a man like Rembrandt or Moretz, or any of the nature-colorists, from the reserve of their experience and knowledge, to achieve a more brilliant and unusual character to painting, but it is not with these men one finds fault.

"There has sprung up in art a certain anxiety among young artists to paint what they call pictures, in such a hurry and with such frank audacity, that there is a grave question in our minds whether those of us who do not paint, but who surely note the eventual arts of nature, see correctly, see clearly, or not.

"Of course, the French modern school is somewhat to blame, and here recently the Germans have been seized with the same complaint. I distinctly object to an impressionist



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ROCKY MOUNTAINS, BY ALBERT BIERSTADT.

This landscape is called by Sir Purdon Clarke "the best we have" in the museum.

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who paints flesh a bluish-green, or clouds like cheesecloth, or a hill with the flat side foremost, and a thin gray skyline, or a canvas half-full of impossible shavings, or scenes with writhing bodies being squeezed by rampant serpents, while little demons with horns look gleefully on at them.

"What is there to paint, that is worth painting, in the madness of the mind? One finds all this sort of impossible transcription of theme and nature in the new pictures by the new impressionists.

"Then there is the 'tonal' picture, another indescribable anomaly of the impressionistic character. It may be a strange study in yellows, or a bilious attempt at inharmonious greens, where the draftsmanship is either wretched or woodeny, and the whole tendency in color and construction are of morbid inertia. The young artists are tumbling over each other to be impressionists of this sort, and as they rely very largely upon the dash and daub of a momentary glimpse, as it were, there is no good painting possible in them.

"Another form which the modern impressionist is particularly fond of is the 'nocturne,' which is an attempt to paint into the picture a fantastic impression of lights and shadows that are not seen by any one else but the artist, and which he himself has not seen too well.

"The modern impressionist who is doing his work with skill and out of the reserve of mature knowledge of painting, may be the prophet in art. He may, in his sudden sight of passing light or shade, in his swift catching of an impression at a glimpse, as it were, discover a warmth of meaning that would disappear were he to study his work more closely, but the picture that is not finished, that is, in the full art-sense of the term, can never be a great painting, can never take rank with the great painters.

"I have nothing to object to in an impressionistic picture, if it shows industry and reserve of character, if it holds well by comparison with true values in nature, if it has life, not merely fancy. I do seriously object to these tonal and nocturnes, however, with their impossible colorings and inadequate construction, to say nothing of their deadly dulness and their tiresome melancholy. . . .

"Our young impressionists, urged on by a value that the dealers have created for eccentric effects with the public, are doing these pictures—for money. The art critics are helping the dealers along. Occasionally a really great painter attaches a significance in the impressionist style to his income, and he paints, just as well, but without the same workmanship or finish, and he paints quickly. Usually, however, the young impressionist, who has not matured sufficiently to understand the difference between actual values and slap-dash theatricalism, produces a startling list of demoralizing unreality in color—and calls it the new realism in art."

Some hard words are written in protest to *The American Art News* (New York, January 16) by Mr. Leon Dabo, a painter of the school attacked by Sir Caspar. He chides the art critics for not attacking the earlier interview published in *The Evening Post*, and reads Sir Purdon Clarke his lesson in this fashion:

"Some of us—evidently foolish—believe that the director of a great museum should be conversant with the law that governs all intellectual and artistic manifestations—evolution. Change—perhaps better—perhaps retrogression—but evolution—it is evident that had Millet lived in Fra Angelico's time he would not have become a thorn in Sir Purdon's directorship. The smallness of mind, the narrowness of his views, as exprest by him and published by a great daily newspaper, gives one the conviction that this gentleman's activities are misplaced. A director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art with such views as exprest is a menace and a detriment to its success."

The editor of this journal prints an observation upon Mr. Dabo's letter that may represent a reason why the critics let the Museum director have his say in silence. It is this:

"Mr. Dabo seems to take Sir Purdon seriously and we fear criticizes him as a museum director, with some of that caustic which artists are wont to resent when used by art critics as to their works. We are yet unable to believe that Sir Purdon was not joking. He is a delightful personality, bubbling over with good-humor and particularly happy at a banquet. In fact, we like him better as a guest of honor at a banquet and in what might be called a decorative capacity, than as a museum director. But we like him, and he has popularized the museum as far as growing attendance gives evidence. But Sir Purdon, do you really believe that Bierstadt's 'Rocky Mountains' is the best picture in the museum?"

WHY WE DO NOT HAVE OPERA IN ENGLISH

THE question of having opera sung in English—mooted recently by Mr. Francis Rogers—seems to a music critic "entirely in the hands of the singers themselves." Experiments that have hitherto been tried in our vernacular have not inspired thrills of the highest pleasure. Let the singers learn to deliver English eloquently, says Mr. W. J. Henderson, of the New York *Sun*, and there will be no more complaint about text in our own language. But Mr. Henderson does not write in a tone of pronounced optimism on this score, because he discerns "a complete absence of all public or national feeling in this matter." "Opera is with us what it has been always with the English-speaking races, an exotic," and such, he shows, it has never been with either the Italians, the French, or the Germans, who not only have a great opera, but in its production use a diction with distinction and effect.

Singers should not ignore the fact, said the Italian, Tosi, writing in 1723, that it is the words which elevate them above instrumentalists. "The German's demand for intelligibility on the lyric stage," says Mr. Henderson, is "a habit of centuries." The singer upon whom with us Mr. Henderson lays the burden of reform "must first learn to speak a pure, round, elegant English." He continues:

"In the end it will have to be the artist who molds the public taste and who paves the way for opera in the vernacular. The artist is the leader and must ever be so. Critics may preach till doomsday, but they can end only by being hated as common scolds, unless the musicians practise. It is not precept but example that converts. The singing of half-a-dozen good works in English in a beautiful and intelligible style should do more good than the publication of half a dozen books on the desirability of opera in English.

"With all faith in the sincerity and all sympathy for the eagerness of the present generation of lyric artists this writer does not believe that any of them will live to see foreign texts superseded on our operatic stages. In the first place we are habituated by the custom of a century to the performance of opera in alien languages. The majority of our opera-goers experience a shock when they hear opera in English. The more familiar forms of speech which must of necessity enter into a dramatic piece sound absurd to them when they hear them sung. It will take time and a gradual development through the agency of the song to accustom music-lovers to English text. Possibly composers who have this matter at heart will be willing to experiment with texts whose poetic style is not remote from the idiom of the people's tongue.

"Secondly, the books of the Italian, French, and German operas must be turned into dignified and poetic English. The translations generally used in experimental English performances are so bad that they are laughable. The natural answer to this is that many of the old operas can not be translated into poetic English. They are too stupid and silly in themselves. This, too, is true. The best thing that could happen to the lyric stage would be to have the silliness of such operas exposed and the works themselves put away forever. Until the path is cleared of underbrush and rank weeds progress will be slow."

The writer goes on to speculate as to what might be done in the way of translating operas into English. Thus:

"Such works as Verdi's 'Aïda,' 'Otello,' and 'Falstaff' have nothing to fear from a scholarly English text. Certainly a respectable English translation would not injure the artistic charm of Puccini's 'Tosca' or 'La Bohème.' In what way would the peculiar atmosphere of 'Pelléas et Mélisande' be obscured by a satisfactory English version, or how would 'Le Jongleur de Notre Dame' be injured?

"The translations of the Wagner dramas have generally been execrable. Charles Henry Meltzer has shown in his version of 'Die Walküre' that it is possible to make a text dignified, regardful of the music, and interesting to the reader of English. Richard Le Gallienne has also made admirable experiments. What has been done in the case of the Wagner drama can be done with other works written on good librettos."

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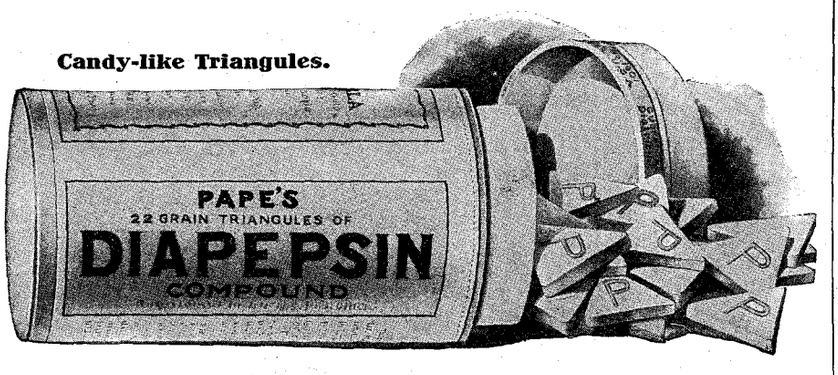

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POETRY

Alas for Sicily!

By William Cowper

Cowper wrote this poem, so appropriate now concerning the recent earthquake devastation, as descriptive of the frightful succession of earthquakes and the tidal wave that created such disaster in Sicily and Southern Italy in February, 1783. The use of this verse at this time is suggested by Mr. A. Francis Walker.

Alas for Sicily! rude fragments now
Lie scattered where the shapely column stood.
Her palaces are dust. In all her streets
The voice of singing and the sprightly chord
Are silent. Revelry, and dance, and show
Suffer a syncope and solemn pause,
While God performs, upon the trembling stage
Of his own works, his dreadful part alone.
How does the earth receive him?—with what signs
Of gratulation and delight, her King?
Pours she not all her choicest fruits abroad,
Her sweetest flowers, her aromatic gums,
Disclosing Paradise where'er he treads?—
She quakes at his approach. Her hollow womb,
Conceiving thunders, through a thousand deeps
And fiery caverns, roars beneath his foot.
The hills move lightly, and the mountains smoke,
For he has touched them. From the extremest point
Of elevation down to the abyss,
His wrath is busy, and his frown is felt.
The rocks fall headlong, and the valleys rise,
The rivers die into offensive pools,
And, charged with putrid verdure, breathe a gross
And mortal nuisance into all the air.
What solid was, by transformation strange,
Grows fluid; and the fixt and rooted earth
Tormented into billows, heaves and swells,
Or with vortiginous and hideous whirl
Sucks down its prey insatiable. Immense
The tumult and the overthrow, the pangs
And agonies of human and of brute
Multitudes, fugitive on every side,
And fugitive in vain. The sylvan scene
Migrates uplifted, and, with all its soil,
Alighting in far distant fields, finds out
A new possessor, and survives the change.
Ocean has caught the frenzy, and upwrought
To an enormous and o'erbearing height,
Not by a mighty wind, but by that voice
Which winds and waves obey, invades the shore
Resistless. Never such a sudden flood,
Upridged so high, and sent on such a charge,
Possest an inland scene. Where now the throng
That prest the beach, and hasty to depart,
Looked to the sea for safety? They are gone—
Gone with the refluent wave into the deep—
A prince with half his people! Ancient towers
And roofs embattled high, the gloomy scenes
Where beauty oft and lettered worth consume
Life in the unproductive shades of death,
Fall prone; the pale inhabitants come forth,
And happy in their unforeseen release,
From all the rigors of restraint, enjoy
The terrors of the day that sets them free.
Who then that has thee, would not hold thee fast,
Freedom? Whom they that lose thee so regret,
That even a judgment, making way for thee,
Seems, in their eyes, a mercy, for thy sake.

—*From "The Task."*

SHEAR WIT

A Heroine.—Ella—"Bella never passes a mirror without looking in it."

Stella—"Brave girl!"—*Harper's Weekly.*

Perfectly Tickled.—Great Lady—"So sorry! I'm afraid my feathers were tickling you during the lecture."

Very Much Lesser Lady—"Oh! dear Lady Highbridge-Knowsley, who would mind being tickled by you?"—*Punch.*

IF YOUR DINNER DISTRESSES
half a teaspoon of *Horsford's Acid Phosphate* in half a glass of water brings quick relief—*makes digestion natural and easy.*

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Remembering All.—An earnest young preacher in a remote country village concluded a long and comprehensive supplication by saying: "And now let us pray for those who are dwelling in the uninhabited portions of the earth."—*The Standard.*

Never Again.—BESSIE—"Are you fascinated by your fiancé?"

TESSIE—"Fascinated! You ought to see the cute way he kisses me under my chin."

BESSIE—"Yes, it is cute; I taught him that."—*Smart Set.*

Out of the Pale.—"Jes' you come right home, Henry Hiram—breakin' the Sabbath day in that scanlous, sinful fashion."

"Well, Jimmy Hicks is let skate on Sunday."

"The commandment don't apply t' him; his paw's a vegetarian."—*Life.*

At Last.—Diogenes, lantern in hand, entered the village drug-store. "Say, have you anything that will cure a cold?" he asked.

"No, sir, I have not," answered the pill-compiler.

"Give me your hand," exclaimed Diogenes, dropping his lantern. "I have at last found an honest man."—*Christian Advocate.*

Nothing Lacking.—A Highland minister, who was rather a pompous gentleman, came to a shepherd's house to baptize a child.

"Are you prepared?" he asked the fond parent.

"Ou ay, munnister; I have got a grand ham for tea."

"I mean spiritually prepared," thundered the cleric.

"Af coorse I am; oh, yes. I got twa bottles o' first-class whisky from the inn," replied the imperturbable Celt.—*Tit-Bits.*

What It Meant to Bill.—Patrick Jones, New York's superintendent of school supplies, was talking at a dinner about corporal punishment.

"Corporal punishment in our schools is no more," he said, "and that is a good thing. Undeniably, tho, many a boy showed wonderful pluck.

"I remember a boy named Bill. Bill, brave fellow, was doing miserably one day in a geometry recitation.

"'Now, sir,' said the schoolmaster savagely, 'for the last time, what is the square of the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle equivalent to?'

"'It's equivalent to a lickin' fer me, sir. There's the club,' said Bill."—*Boston Herald.*

JOY WORK
And the Other Kind.

Did you ever stand on a prominent corner at an early morning hour and watch the throngs of people on their way to work? Noting the number who were forcing themselves along because it meant their daily bread, and the others cheerfully and eagerly pursuing their way because of love of their work.

It is a fact that one's food has much to do with it. As an example:

If an engine has poor oil, or a boiler is fired with poor coal, a bad result is certain, isn't it?

Treating your stomach right is the keystone that sustains the arch of health's temple and you will find "Grape-Nuts" as a daily food is the most nourishing and beneficial you can use.

We have thousands of testimonials, real genuine little heart throbs, from people who simply tried Grape-Nuts out of curiosity—as a last resort—with the result that prompted the testimonial.

If you have never tried Grape-Nuts it's worth while to give it a fair impartial trial. Remember there are millions eating Grape-Nuts every day—they know, and we know if you will use Grape-Nuts every morning your work is more likely to be joy-work, because you can keep well, and with the brain well nourished work is a joy. Read the "Road to Wellville" in every package—"There's a Reason."

PAINT TALKS
No. 1—Paint for Exterior Work

"I am going to tell a number of specific and money-saving facts in this magazine from month to month. Space is limited and bare facts only can be stated. Those who want reasons, explanations, fuller information, etc, need only write National Lead Company."

Exterior paint is exposed to the weather, hot—cold—rainy—freezing. No risk should be run with faulty materials or faulty methods. The priming coat should not be ochre. It is cheap but fatal. The best primer—our pure White Lead mixed with linseed oil, some turpentine (enough to drive the paint into the pores of the wood) and a bit of Japan drier. The body and finishing coats need exactly the same materials but they should be mixed thicker.

Points to Avoid—(*a*) adulteration in pigment (a guarantee of absolute purity goes with our White Lead—(*b*) adulteration in oil—(*c*) too much turpentine—(*d*)—inferior drier—(*e*) also stale paint should not be used. Have your painter mix the ingredients fresh for each job.

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3—Instrument for detecting adulteration in paint material, with directions for using it.

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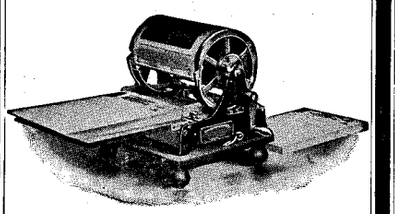

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AGENTS WANTED. **KEEPSHAPE CO., Dept. A, 132 Nassau St., N.Y.**

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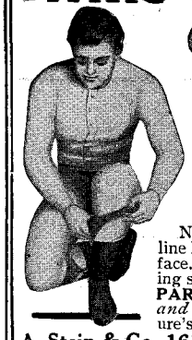

25 and 50 cents at dealers or direct if he is out

No Metal can come next the wearer

Nature has made the masculine leg flat on its inner front surface. From this point all stocking support should come.

PARIS *is the only garter shaped and fitted* in harmony with nature's plan. *Guaranteed to satisfy.*

A. Stein & Co., 161 Center Ave., Chicago

The Way Out.—HE—"Your milliner's bill has cost me last year as much as the salary of my two bookkeepers. That is more than I can afford."

SHE—"Well, discharge one of them."—*Fliegende Blaetter.*

Advice.—FATHER (angrily)—"If my son marries that actress I shall cut him off absolutely, and you can tell him so."

LEGAL ADVISER—"I know a better plan than that—tell the girl."—*Boston Transcript.*

A Protest.—Papa was about to apply the strap. "Father," said Willie, firmly, "unless that instrument has been properly sterilized I desire to protest." This gave the old man pause. "Moreover," continued Willie, "the germs that might be released by the violent impact of leather upon a porous textile fabric, but lately exposed to the dust of the streets, would be apt to affect you deleteriously." As the strap fell from a nerveless hand Willie sloped.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

CURRENT EVENTS

Foreign.

January 15.—A child is taken alive from the ruins of Messina, having lived under the débris for 18 days.

It is announced that Baron Rosen, Russian Ambassador to the United States, will succeed the late Count Muravieff at Rome.

January 16.—The bodies of Consul and Mrs. Cheney, who perished at Messina, are recovered and put on a steamer for New York.

January 19.—The ruins of Messina are swept by flames, which destroy many valuables and consume many bodies.

Domestic.

WASHINGTON.

January 15.—The House receives a message from the President vetoing a bill for the construction of a dam across the James River in Missouri.

January 16.—Six Washington correspondents and newsboys are summoned to appear as witnesses in the libel suit to be brought by the Government on account of Panama-Canal charges.

January 18.—The United States Supreme Court affirms the action of the Texas courts in imposing a fine of $1,623,900 on the Waters-Pierce Oil Co., and forbidding it to do business in that State.

The headquarters of the American Red Cross at Washington announce that the Italian relief fund has passed $900,000.

January 20.—The President, the Secretary of State, and the Committee on Foreign Relations show grave concern over the possibility of the enactment of anti-Japanese legislation in California.

January 21.—A measure increasing the salaries of 29 circuit judges and 84 district judges is passed by the Senate.

GENERAL.

January 16.—It is decided that the $500,000 appropriated for the relief of Italian earthquake sufferers by the United States shall be expended in buying material for 3,000 substantial houses to be shipped to Italy.

January 19.—The centenary of the birth of Edgar Allan Poe is celebrated at New York, Boston, Baltimore, Charlottesville, Va., and elsewhere.

January 20.—At least 53 out of 95 workmen employed in constructing a water-tunnel are killed in a fire following an explosion on a structure in Lake Michigan at Chicago.

Pears'

"A scowling look is altogether unnatural."

All the features of Pears' Soap are pleasing. A naturally good soap for the complexion.

Sold by the cake and in boxes.

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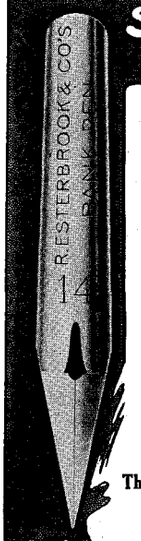
250 Styles



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THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

THE CONTROL OF RAILROADS

Figures showing what are the amounts of holdings of great American railway investors, as obtained from the Interstate Commerce Commission's records, and published this month, have been received with wide interest. The name of E. H. Harriman appears conspicuously in these lists. In his name is held more stock than in that of any other man in the country. It is conceded, however, that a considerable part of this stock is actually owned by corporations with which he is identified. Other names prominent in the list are James J. Hill of the Northwestern railway systems; John S. Kennedy, the New-York banker and philanthropist; George F. Baker, who recently retired as president of the First National Bank of New York; and Henry C. Frick, the ironmaster of Pittsburg, now living in New York, and Jacob H. Schiff's firm, Kuhn, Loeb & Co. Other men believed to be large owners, but whose names do not appear, are J. Pierpont Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, and H. H. Rogers. The figures have been divided into groups by a writer in the New York *Times*, in order to show which of the railroads are most closely identified with prominent investors, with the following results, the figures given being not the market, but the par values:

Morgan Interests

	Common.	Preferred.
J. P. Morgan—		
New York, New Haven & Hartford.....	$507,700	.....
J. P. Morgan et al., trustees—		
Southern Railway	119,895,000	$59,859,400
J. P. Morgan & Co.—		
Hocking Valley.....	3,448,300	4,191,100

GLASSES UNNECESSARY

Eye Strain Relieved by Quitting Coffee.

Many cases of defective vision are caused by the habitual use of coffee.

It is said that in Arabia where coffee is used in large quantities, many lose their eyesight at about fifty.

A N. J. woman writes to the point concerning eye trouble and coffee. She says:

"My son was for years troubled with his eyes. He tried several kinds of glasses without relief. The optician said there was a defect in his eyes which was hard to reach.

"He used to drink coffee, as we all did, and finally quit it and began to use Postum. That was three years ago, he has not had to wear glasses and has had no trouble with his eyes since.

"I was always fond of tea and coffee and finally became so nervous I could hardly sit still long enough to eat a meal. My heart was in such a condition I thought I might die any time.

"Medicine did not give me any relief and I was almost desperate. It was about this time we decided to quit coffee and use Postum, and have used it ever since. I am in perfect health. No trouble now with my heart and never felt better in my life.

"Postum has been a great blessing to us all, particularly to my son and myself."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

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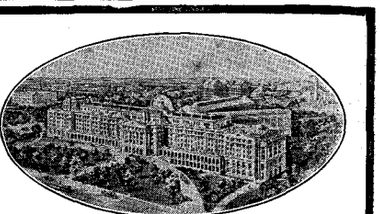

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See if "Holeproof" aren't softer and finer than any sox you know.

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But be sure when you buy that the name is "Holeproof"—the original guaranteed sox.
The genuine are sold in your town. On request we will direct you to the right store, or will ship direct, charges prepaid, on receipt of remittance.

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Holeproof Hosiery
FOR MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Holeproof Sox—6 pairs, $1.50. Medium and light weight. Black, light and dark tan, navy blue, pearl gray, and black with white feet. Sizes, 9½ to 12. Six pairs of a size and weight in a box. All one color or assorted, as desired.

Six Pairs Guaranteed Six Months

Holeproof Sox (extra light weight)—Made entirely of Sea Island cotton. 6 pairs, $2.00.
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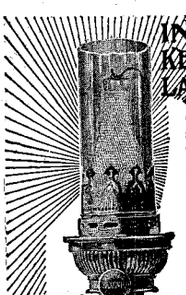

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Cincinnati, New Orleans, & Texas Pacific	116,500	100,000
J. F. G. Brown—		
Erie	6,000,000	.....
E. T. Stotesbury—		
Philadelphia & Reading	150	.....
Lehigh Valley	345,000	.....
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Chesapeake & Ohio	5,000,000	.....
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Union Pacific	1,490,200	2,542,600
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Baltimore & Ohio	2,719,500	.....
Chesapeake & Ohio	3,460,000	.....
Standard-Oil Interests		
William Rockefeller—		
Chicago, M. & St. P.	$1,020,000	950,000
C. W. Harkness—		
New York Central	2,880,000	.....
Chicago, Bur. & Quincy	303,000	.....
N. Y., Chi. & St. L.	.....	222,000
Chicago, M. & St. P.	600,000	1,020,000
Lake Erie & Western	475,000	.....
Clev., C., C. & St. L.	230,000	.....
E. S. Harkness—		
Chicago, Bur. & Quincy	101,000	.....
Lake Erie & Western	187,500	.....
F. T. Gates—		
Wisconsin Central	100	1,000,000
H. M. Flagler—		
Florida East Coast Ry.	999,600	.....

The same writer presents tables showing the holdings of others, including Messrs. Harriman, Frick, Hill, Kennedy, and Baker, as follows:

	Common.	Preferred.
E. H. Harriman:—		
Southern Pacific	$75,695,000	$30,000,000
Union Pacific	10,415,000	52,000
Oregon Short Line	27,350,700	.....
Great Northern	.....	6,777,300
Northern Pacific	2,880,500	.....
Illinois Central	1,413,000	.....
H. C. Frick—		
Atchison	3,530,000	.....
Pennsylvania	4,320,050	.....
Chi. & Northwestern	3,700,000	600,000
James J. Hill—		
Great Northern	.....	2,000,000
Northern Pacific	8,000,000	.....
John S. Kennedy—		
Great Northern	.....	7,000,000
Northern Pacific	10,000,000	.....
Pitts., Ft. W. & Chi.	100,000	200,000
George F. Baker—		
Great Northern	.....	2,872,000
Northern Pacific	3,078,000	.....
Del., Lack. & Western	2,100,000	.....

It appears further that enormous blocks of stock in American railways are held abroad. For example, one house in Antwerp holds $9,953,500 of Atchison and $4,778,000 of Denver & Rio Grande; and another, $12,676,000 of Mis., Kan. & Tex.; one in London has $12,870,000 of Southern Pacific; and one in Berlin, $18,683,700 of Baltimore & Ohio. The statement shows foreign holdings altogether of $139,570,800 in common and $27,913,905 in preferred shares.

In commenting on the appearance among large stockholders of men absolutely unknown to Wall Street, the New York *Evening Post* notes that three unknown names appear in the list of five companies, with aggregating holdings of $50,000,000, from which it infers that these names really stand for other men well known. The writer recalls that when in June, 1902, the names of shareholders in the Steel Trust were

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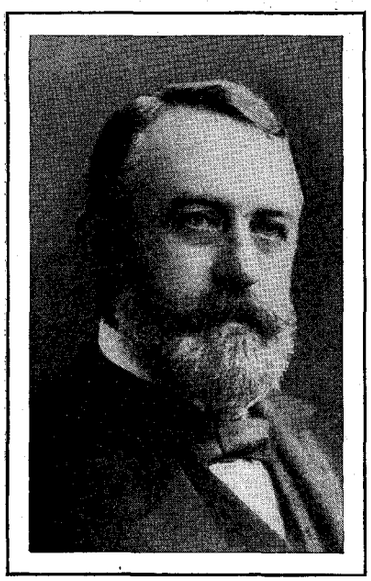
JOHN S. KENNEDY.

published, it had been expected that Mr. Morgan's name would head the list, while, as a matter of fact, it appeared that Mr. Morgan was down for only 7,131 shares of preferred and 12,500 of common. The largest holder, according to the record, was one Bertram Cutler, who had 123,975 shares of preferred and 25,365 shares of common. Inquiry in Wall Street revealed the fact that Mr. Cutler represented John D. Rockefeller. The writer then sets forth some of the reasons why large capitalists often have their stocks recorded in the names of others:

"One is to avoid the details connected with handling dividend checks. Another is that the identity of the real purchaser can thus be concealed when stock is being accumulated for the purpose of acquiring control. Another and the most important is that shares can be sold as well as bought any number of times without the real trader's name becoming more or less public through a company's stock-transfer office. In some cases stock is registered in the name of clerks because investors shrink from publicity of any kind."

The New York *Times*, in discussing these lists and the effect which the publication



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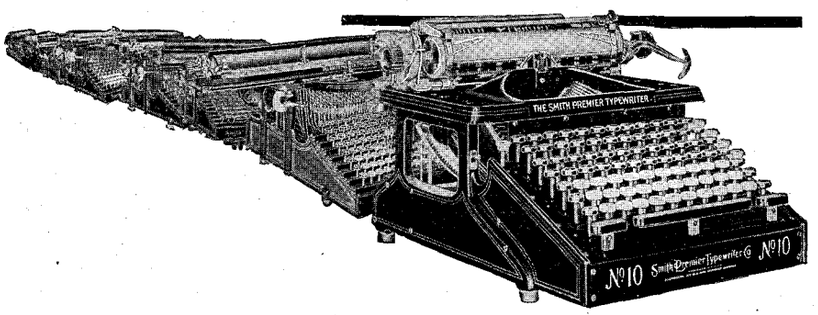

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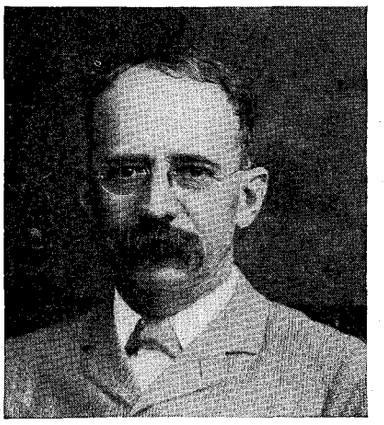

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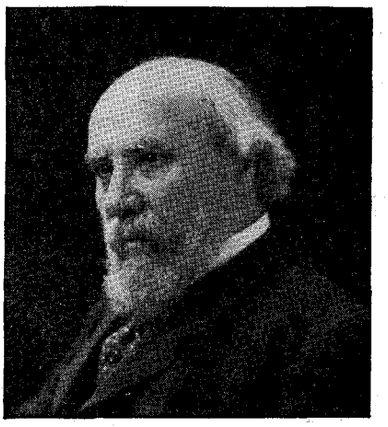
E. H. HARRIMAN.



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JAMES J. HILL.

of them may have on the future control of railways, says:

"The condition reflected is not new. The question at once arises whether it is to the advantage or to the disadvantage of the country that a few rich men should have this power. The people need not be very much disturbed by the concentration of ownership save as they fear that this great power lodged in so few hands may, perhaps, escape that proper regulation which the Federal and State Governments should exercise over public-service corporations.

"Manifestly the policy of the Federal regulation of the great inter-State carriers will not be weakened by the publication of facts showing the close concentration of control. It will be strengthened rather. Every reasonable man must admit that the management of the greatest business interest in the country, an interest that is by no means altogether private, but is in a very large sense a public interest, can not safely be left to the uncovenanted decisions of a few men or of a few groups of men. The policy of regulation is established, and will not be abandoned."

BARGAINS THAT MANY MISSED

One of the large investment houses in New York has compiled a statement showing what profits investors might have made, had they purchased certain railway and industrial stocks at certain dates during the past year, when this house called attention to them as good properties. It was the habit of the house, after the autumn of 1907, to write a series of weekly letters, setting forth in each letter existing conditions and future possibilities in some one railway or industrial company. The present compilation gives the prices which prevailed at the time these letters were written, the prices which prevailed on December 31, 1908, the advance made in points and the percentage of the advance. From it, the items given below are taken.

The writer of the letter (December 31) from which the above table is given remarks that "in looking back one can not help wondering why high-grade stocks and bonds were not gobbled up by the public at those ridiculously low prices." He explains, however, that a vast majority of those who were cognizant with conditions and recognized the cheapness of the securities "had either lost their money, or were so tied up at much higher figures that it was impossible for them to increase their commitments." On the other hand, people who had the money with which to take advantage of the existing bargains were in the main shy of investments because of the tales they had heard of "shearing lambs" in Wall Street, and hence few were willing to take the necessary risk.

AN EXTRAORDINARY BOND MARKET

Most writers, viewing the financial history of 1908, have taken special notice of the marked improvement which occurred in the latter part of the year in the market for bonds. It is generally agreed that this market was an extraordinarily good one. Conditions had surprizingly altered since the opening of that year, when, as Robert W. Martin remarks in the New York *Times Annual Financial Review*, "bonds, tried by the experience of the eighties and early nineties," some of them being the highest class of investment securities at that time, "were at the lowest prices in a decade."

			COMMON.				PREFERRED.			
			Price at writing.	Present price.	Advance in points.	Percentage of advance.	Price at writing.	Present price.	Advance in points.	Percentage of Adv'c.
Jan.	11	N. Y., Ontario & Western	33	47	14	42%	..	..	..	....
	25	Norfolk & Western	67	86	19	28%	79	88	9	11%
Feb.	8	Colorado & Southern	25	58	33	132%	52	76	24	46%
	15	U. S. Rubber Co	18	36	18	100%	78	106	28	36%
	21	Denver & Rio Grande	15	38	23	153%	42	80	38	90%
Mch.	7	Brooklyn Rapid Transit	41	68	27	66%	..	..	..	....
	14	National Lead	50	79	29	58%	90	105	15	16%
	21	Atch., Topeka & Santa Fé	..	..	..	....	85	104	19	20%
April	4	Atch., Topeka & Santa Fé	74	101	27	36%	..	..	..	....
	14	American Can Co	4	9	5	125%	50	73	23	46%
	16	Chesapeake & Ohio	30	59	29	97%	..	..	..	....
May	9	Union Pacific	140	184	44	31%	..	..	..	....
	23	U. S. Steel	37	55	18	49%	..	..	..	....
	29	Pennsylvania	119	132	13	11%	..	..	..	....
June	13	Amalgamated Copper	67	84	17	25%	..	..	..	....
	20	Chesapeake & Ohio	30	59	29	97%	..	..	..	....
July	25	Consolidated Gas	137	164	27	20%	..	..	..	....

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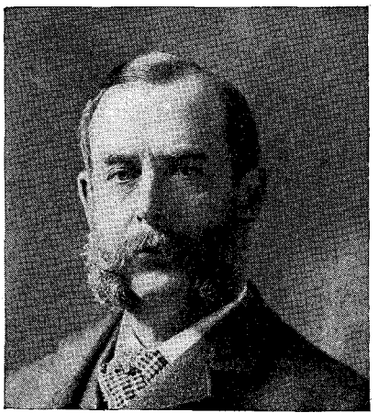

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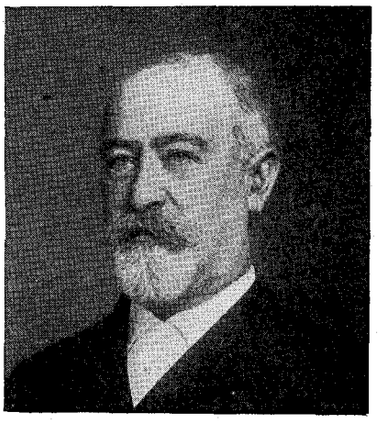
GEORGE F. BAKER.



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JACOB H. SCHIFF.

Banking-houses, swelling with funds, seldom could be induced to take advantage of a golden opportunity. Corporation stocks were at the lowest point, so that, as Mr. Martin remarks, the whole advance in values resulting from development in the country's enterprises and wealth between 1898 and 1908 "had been very generally wiped out at prevailing prices." Mr. Martin finds, however, that the promise now is for an exceptionally active demand for bonds.

While in amount the transactions in bonds have not yet been large, they have been exceptional in diversity of conditions. A year ago only high-grade municipal issues could be recorded as salable. How materially conditions afterward altered is shown in the fact that the $40,000,000 Pennsylvania Railroad Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, which were offered at 96, were more than twenty times oversubscribed and are now quoted at above 103. Since that sale, which was the great event of the year in bonds, the record has been one of increasing activity and broadening demand.

Mr. Noyes, writing in the New York *Evening Post*, observes in connection with the activity and strength of bonds in December, that the chief point for notice is that " the instinct which led to the demonstration was sound and conservative."

FOREIGN VIEWS OF THE OUTLOOK

The London correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* writes of the outlook in Europe as at present optimistic. Except for one circumstance, which is the constant creation of fresh capital, the feeling as regards all investment stocks "would be decidedly bullish." Already experts find that the current year will see creations of another £200,000,000 in London alone, which, if true, will absorb money "which might otherwise go toward the bolstering of old securities." As to the outlook for American railways, he says the opinion of Europe has not yet changed, adding:

"The more we study your conditions, the more persuaded we are that a slight real improvement has occurred, but that the tendency to overdo the discounting of this improvement by advancing prices in Wall Street prematurely, is as pronounced as ever. For the moment, the tendency here is to keep watch of all high-class bonds of American rails for investment, but, unless a drop of ten to twenty dollars should attract buyers, the inclination is to leave the common securities alone for the time being."

With the opening of the new year, many European daily and weekly papers devoted special attention to the history of Wall Street for 1908. Notable among these was the *Journal des Débats* of Paris, which said:

"The rise on the New York Stock Exchange, which has been one of the salient events of 1908, had a character wholly its own, and our people must be careful to draw no analogies between it and Europe's markets. Over in America, such movements are conducted by financiers or by syndicates who make no secret of their action. They proclaim their purposes from the housetops; nobody can fail to learn that the rise was artificially brought about.

"If better times have returned in the United States, that is because the panic of 1907, a shock of extreme and far-reaching violence, had paralyzed everything, and because the low level of depression was attained in a short and sudden drop. In Europe this is not what occurred, and it is not yet safe to say even that the worst is over. Still more foolish would it be to declare that our after-panic liquidation period is ended and that we have already entered on a new period of great industrial activity."

A BAROMETER OF TRADE

Commercial and banking interests always await with special attention the annual report of the H. B. Claflin Company, as the best index of its kind as to mercantile trade. The report for 1908, recently given out, shows that profits have been less than one-third what they were in 1907, and that the net earnings for the full year fell below those for any year since 1896, when they were $261,500. Last year they were $303,000, while in 1907 they were $959,000.

In spite of these figures, the report has been accepted as one for encouragement, inasmuch as the second half of the year was a great improvement on the first. In the first half the earnings fell $7,437 below the working expenses, as against a net

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profit of $450,000 for the same period in 1907. In the second half of last year, however, the net earnings were $310,000. It remains to be added that, even this sum was only 61 per cent. of the net earnings for the same period in 1907, and 76 per cent. of the same period in 1906.

THE INCREASE IN STOCKHOLDERS

The recent financial depression has called attention anew to the great number of stockholders in public corporations doing business in this country. There has been a large increase in the number since the panic of 1907. Approximately there are now 2,000,000 such stockholders. The railroads alone have on their roads more than 500,000 who share in the $300,000,000 distributed each year in dividends on the various lines. The Pennsylvania road has 60,000 stockholders of whom nearly one-half, or 28,000, are women. Mr. Harriman's two great lines, the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific, have a total of 30,000 stockholders; the Atchison 25,000; the New York Central, 22,000; St. Paul, 10,000; Erie, 10,000, and the Pullman Company, 13,000. Of corporations other than railroads may be named the United States Steel Trust, which has 110,000 stockholders, of which number 35,000 are workmen employed in its shops. The American Sugar has 22,000; the Bell Telephone, 24,000; Amalgamated Copper, 18,000; Smelters, 10,000; and the Standard Oil, 5,500.

A writer in *The Saturday Evening Post* of Philadelphia who uses these facts in a recent article finds that the average holding in the stocks above mentioned is 85 shares and the average income per stockholder from these stocks is $580. During the past few years, the number of persons holding lots of five or ten shares has grown enormously, and these holders "have become a big factor in the stock situation." The writer affirms that corporations are glad to have a great many small stockholders, for it "shows that the people have confidence in them."

RAILWAY BUILDING IN 1908

A compilation has been made by the *Railway Age Gazette* of the building operations of railways for 1908. The figures show a substantial increase, but "the surprizing thing is the amount of mileage built." The writer says:

"In 1907, according to the best obtainable statistics gathered from all the railway companies in the United States, approximately 5,212 miles of new main track were laid, while a similar record for 1908 shows 3,214 miles, a decrease of 1,998 miles, or 38.3 per cent. The 1908 record is the smallest since 1904, when 3,832 miles were laid. The mileage built in 1904 showed a falling off of 1,820 miles, or 32.2 per cent., from 1903. It is rather interesting to note that for each fifth year since 1893 the mileage record has been a little over 3,000 miles. In 1894 there were 1,760 miles of new main track laid, a decrease of 1,264 miles, or 41.7 per cent., from the mileage built in 1893. This parallels closely the percentage of decrease this year. Not until 1898, when 3,265 miles were laid, did the record again reach

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that of 1893, showing a drag of five years following that panic."

The greatest decrease was in States east of the Mississippi, where it was about 59 per cent., while in States west of that river the decrease was only 38 per cent. The writer presents as follows a table of mileage built during the last sixteen years:

1893	3,024	1901	5,368
1894	1,760	1902	6,026
1895	1,428	1903	5,652
1896	1,692	1904	3,832
1897	2,109	1905	4,388
1898	3,265	1906	5,623
1899	4,569	1907	5,212
1900	4,894	1908	3,214

MORE IDLE CARS

A considerable factor in the recent rise in prices on the stock exchanges was the decrease in the number of idle railway cars. On April 19, 1908, the number had reached its maximum for the period since the panic of October, 1907, the figures being for that date, 403,338. A decline then set in slowly, and on October 30, the total of idle cars had reached a minimum record for this period of depression, the figures being 100,073.

Since October 30, the movement has been the other way. The increase, however, was not notably great, until the returns came in for January 6, when it appeared that the net surplus had risen to 332,515, which is declared to be the greatest increase for a single fortnight since the panic of October, 1907.

It would require only 10,000 more idle cars to reach the number that were idle in January of last year, when the country was probably at the lowest point in business depression. The following table presents the fortnightly reports since December 11, 1907:

	Surplus.	Shortage.	Net sur.
January 6, 1908	333,019	506	332,513
December 23	222,077	1,019	221,058
December 9	175,643	1,579	174,064
November 25	132,829	9,210	123,619
November 11	121,174	11,659	109,515
October 30	10,912	10,839	100,073
October 14	115,036	13,199	101,837
September 30	133,792	8,114	125,678
September 16	173,587	2,935	170,652
September 2	222,632	1,418	221,214
August 19	153,003	854	253,199
August 5	281,621	635	280,936
July 22	308,680	509	308,171
July 8	303,560	518	303,042
June 24	313,398	451	312,847
June 10	349,994	427	349,567
May 27	381,904	125	381,779
May 13	404,534	159	404,375
April 19	413,605	167	413,338
April 15	375,870	246	375,624
April 1	306,507	528	305,979
March 18	297,942	1,007	296,035
March 4	314,992	1,619	313,273
February 19	32,513	1,249	321,264
February 5	343,928	1,100	342,828
January 22	342,580	738	341,842
January 8, 1907	341,763	653	341,110
December 11	119,339	4,520	114,819

A Safe Statement.—MISS BACON—"Wasn't it Admiral Porter who said, 'Take no quarter from the enemy'?"

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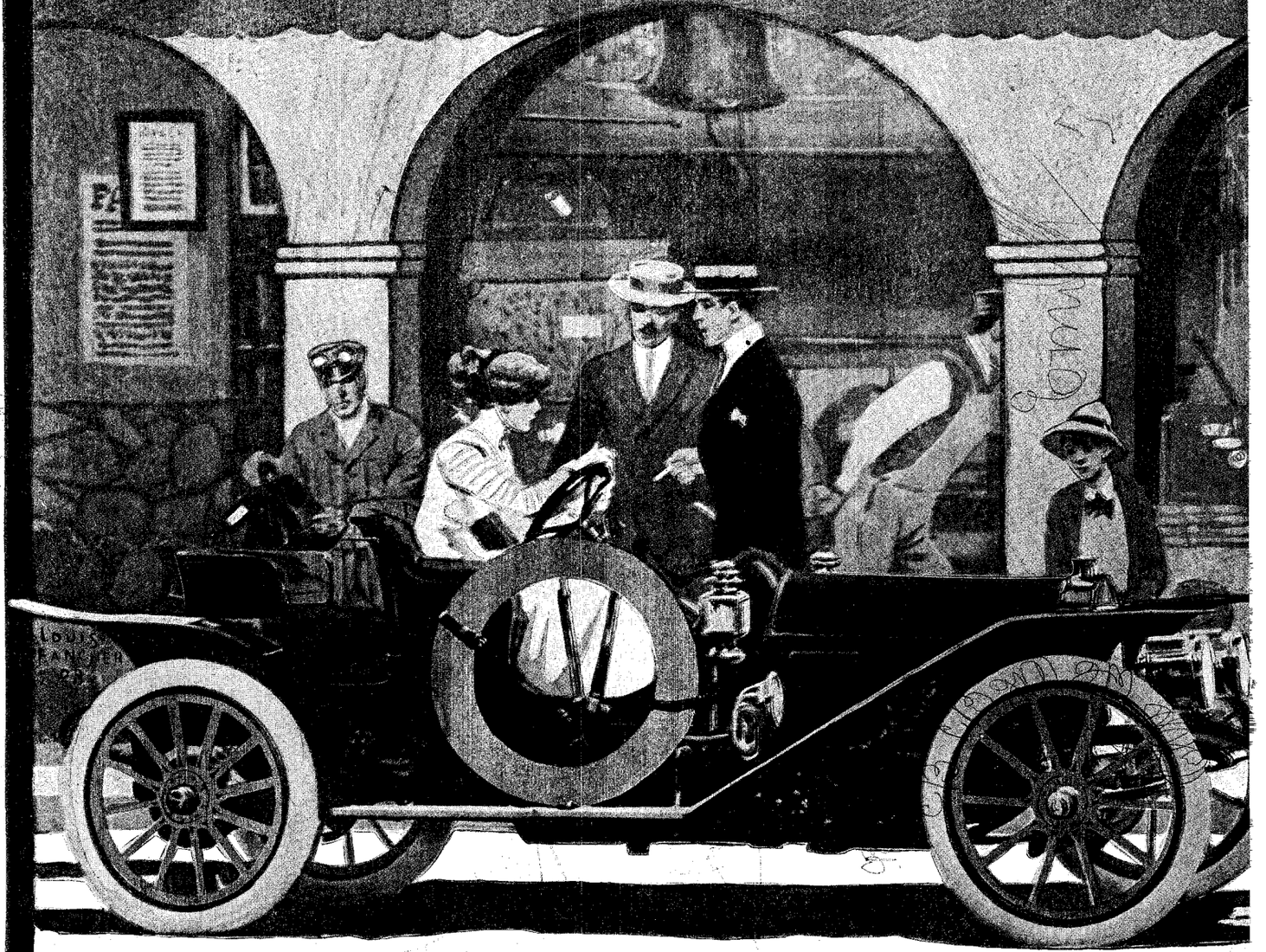

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